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JAN 19 1900

A FEW HENS

THE POULTRY PAPER FOR BEGINNERS.

VOL. 3.

BOSTON, MASS., JAN. 15, 1900.

NO. 7.

Your Subscription Ended

for this paper, possibly with the last issue of A FEW HENS. If so, and you renew, you will get fifty per cent more matter the coming year, as the paper will contain twelve pages instead of eight. The price will remain the same, 25 cents, as before. Kindly favor us at once with your renewal, sending 25 cents for same, in cash or postage stamps.

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A FEW HENS, Box 2118, Boston, Mass.

EDITORIAL HINTS.

1900!
Go slow.
Don't rush.
Aim to please.
Avoid extremes.
Plucky men win.
Egg season next.
Live and let live.
Plan for the year.
Don't get excited.
Happy New Year!
Estimate carefully.
Keep only the best.
Strive for the front.
Study your interests.
Adopt a business type.
Get a good foundation.
Ill-fed hens are drones.
Improve your facilities.
Use business judgment.
Turn over the new leaf.
Hens are bread winners.
Is your stock improved?
Breed for eggs and meat.
Resolutions are in order.
Make this the Banner Year.
How was the holiday trade?
Place your egg orders early.
Advertising in A F. H. pays.
The trust movement is dead.
Poultry is the best farm crop.
Overcrowding is poor economy.
Complain politely—never kick.
Take advantage of fine weather.
The incubator men are hustlers.
How's the man behind the hens?
Put off and neglect cause failures.

Experimental Farm Notes.

Attending to "Small Matters"—Keeping a Diary—Our First Pullet Eggs—Rhode Island Reds Lead—Our Brahma Matings—Breeding Stock for 1900—4 x 4 Breeding Pens—A Christmas Present—Neponset Paper—The Egg Yield and Prices for the Month of November.

At this writing (December 20, 1899), we are busy mating up our yards, banding the hens, and generally getting ready for business. There are so many little things we have to look after, which, lumped together, count in time and work. There is no time of the year when it is more important to attend to the "small matters" than right now. Neglects at this stage of the game are costly.

We will not be able to give an account of the results achieved on A FEW HENS Experimental Farm for 1899, before next issue. These notes must be prepared a week or more before the winding up of the year, and therefore it will be impossible to "tell the story" before another month. As hinted at some time ago, we have in mind running a daily diary of the operations on the farm, beginning with the first of January, 1900. We want to note everything that happens, and we believe that in that way we can solve many problems that have long perplexed us. Be sure that your subscription is paid for this year—we will give you valuable data that will more than repay the amount ten-fold.

We stated some months ago that we would make a test of several breeds to find which gave us the quickest and best returns. Between the 13th and the last of May we hatched pullets of White and Silver Wyandottes, Light Brahma and Rhode Island Reds, and bought White Plymouth Rock pullets of the same age. They all received the same feed and care, and gave us the first eggs as follows:

Rose Comb Rhode Island Red, December 4th.

Silver Wyandotte, December 8th.

Single Comb Rhode Island Red, December 19th.

Light Brahma, December 16th.

White Wyandotte, December 16.

White Plymouth Rock, December 20th.

For want of room we disposed of our Rose Comb Rhode Island Reds to E. R. Reid, Englewood, N. J., and will confine our experiments with this breed solely to the single comb variety.

It might be in order to here state our impressions of the Rhode Island Reds to date. As these birds, especially the pullets, were maturing, they put one very much in mind of a lot of mongrels. The cockerels of the Single Combs were rather uniform, and very pretty, but the pullets of that variety were anything but attractive in appearance. In the Rose Combs there was a better uniformity of females, but the cockerels were very irregular. The feathering of the pullets of the Single Combs were about as varied as are the pullets of Pit Games, there not being two alike. Yet, withal that, the pullets of both varieties have an excellent body, and carry good weight. The Rose Combs proved not only the first layers, but they were the best. In fact, they beat every pullet of all the varieties we keep, not only in the first egg, but the regularity of laying after that. We believe they will prove to be excellent layers and first-class table poultry, and will be especially valuable to poultry farmers.

Since our last issue we purchased 13 Light Brahma hens, Cost strain, and added them to our stock. This will leave our Brahma matings for this season, as follows:

Pen No. 1—7 hens of Roberts strain, 1 hen Silberstein strain, and 6 hens Cost strain.

Pen No. 2—8 Felch pullets, and 6 Felch-Silberstein pullets.

Pen No. 3—7 Felch-Silberstein pullets, and 7 Cost hens.

Pen No. 4—14 Cost pullets.

Pen No. 5—14 Cost pullets.

Since mated, one of the Felch-Silberstein pullets died, leaving only 6 Felch-Silberstein pullets in Pen No. 3.

Our matings in White Wyandottes, White Plymouth Rocks and Rhode Island Reds are not completed yet at this writing. We hope to have every-

thing ready, however, by January 1st, so as to start right in for business. We expect to have about 50 Wyandotte hens and pullets, 40 head of White Plymouth Rocks, and 12 head of Rhode Island Reds, besides a few "odds and ends," all of which we will note in our next month's account.

We just received three fine cockerels of White Plymouth Rocks that will be alternated in two runs of hens and pullets. These birds we purchased of A. C. Hawkins, Lancaster, Mass., and we hope to have some grand stock from these matings.

We will, on the whole, start the year with better stock than we have any year yet, and as in every case we paid the strictest attention to the mating for strong utility points, we hope to give results that will be valuable.

Although we erected a new scratching-shed house, and renovated some other buildings to accommodate our stock, we have been compelled to turn our 4 x 4 houses into breeding pens for small families. These pens, we believe, will comfortably quarter five females and a male, and will be used principally by the Rhode Island Reds and other fowls that we will use in experiments.

A FEW HENS' Experimental Farm has just received a Christmas present from the Prairie State Incubator Company. It consists of two "Baby" incubators, one holding 50 eggs, and the other 100 eggs. They are built in the same way, and same style of the larger machines, and are a perfect ornament. Just how they will hatch, we cannot say until we have tried them, which we hope to do very shortly.

It is surprising how many different ways Neponset paper can be used. We have it tacked to gates for wind brakes, have used it for gutters to carry off water, and have it in use on frames for closing up the wire netting work on our 4 x 4 houses. One of the latest uses we have put it to is to cover the sides of shipping coops. We like the Neponset paper for this purpose better than we do cloth or thin wood. After we cover the sides with the paper, we nail thin strips of wood or lath over it, about three inches apart, and we have a strong, durable, light coop, one that protects the fowls best from wind and cold. There seems to be no end to the many uses that Neponset can be put to, and we always aim to have a roll of the paper on hand.

During the month of November our Wyandottes laid 76 eggs; Brahma, 6 eggs; White Plymouth Rocks, 10 eggs; Leghorn, 2 eggs. The Leghorn eggs were laid by a fowl kept over for experimental purposes. This made a total of 94 eggs for the month, or a daily average of 3 eggs. The highest number laid in one day was 6, and the lowest number 0.

Of eggs retailed, the highest price we received during the month was 27 cents, and the lowest, 24 cents; average, 25 cents.

Eggs and Egg Farming.

Lay of an Ancient Hen—Hints on Candling Eggs—Pointers Worth Remembering.

Yes, I am a lazy, fat old hen,
The pet of the farmer's wife;
I've never reared a family
Or laid but one egg in my life.
I never get up in the morning till ten,
And I go to roost at four,
With a crop choke-full of the finest corn—
Now, what could a hen want more.

There's some of my sisters get up with the dawn,
While the grass with the dew is still wet,
And come home with some very marvelous tales
Of the wonderful worms they get;
But once when I tried the plan myself
(It was foolish to be so bold),
Why, all that I got for three hours' work
Was a horrible, nasty cold.

But now I wait till the air is warm
And the ground all nice and dry,
So if you will notice an early bird
You can bet that it is not I.
They may call me a lazy, fat old hen,
But I know when I give up the ghost
They will bury my body decently,
For I am far too tough to roast.

So take my advice, young hens and old,
And don't get up too soon;
Just follow my plan—eat all you can,
And go to roost at noon.
It is only a common, ignorant hen
That is scraping about all day;
Just act like me, and you'll very soon see
Why keeping old hens don't pay.
—Arthur Chitty, in *Feathered World, England*.

Frozen eggs are sold by weight.
Nine cracked eggs average a pound.
The market is the place for the non-layer.

Watch for the sluggard and send her to market.

Scanty feeding is not adapted to abundant egg production.

With the large bakers and cracker makers in the cities the frozen eggs are in demand.

A very poor hen is as unfitted for laying as a very fat one—either extreme should be avoided.

It is not the number of hens that are kept which tells the dozens of eggs that will be produced.

Hens that lay many eggs must be well fed—as much as they will eat and digest without getting too fat.

Poultry and eggs together yielded to the farmers of Missouri, after their own tables had been supplied, \$8,298,000.

The egg business is in its infancy, and there are wonderful problems to be solved by some one in the near future. Exercise during the winter months is very necessary to both cocks and hens, if we wish for eggs that hatch early.

High feeding and lack of exercise are, without doubt, the cause of the lack of fertility of so many eggs in the early spring.

Certain classes of restaurants served scrambled eggs and omelets in winter made from frozen eggs, and patrons are none the wiser.

The flavor of eggs is affected by the food given the fowls, consequently, for agreeable tasting eggs the food should be sweet, clean and of the best.

A great many hens are kept all winter by nearly every poultry breeder which do not lay an egg during the whole time. These are the ones which keep down the dividend.

In testing, by lamplight, for market purposes, the object is to discern the size of the air space in the eggs. When perfectly fresh, the space is very small, and can just be seen at the broad end. The space increases in size every day, and when it becomes prominent the egg should be ranked second class. Cloudy eggs or those which rattle are suitable only for cheap cookery or manufacturing purposes.

Fred A. Hanaford, So. Lancaster, Mass., writes: "You can say in A FEW HENS that my White Wyandotte pullet, No. 26, April-hatch, laid 24 eggs in her first laying month, which ended November 18, worth 78 cents. After a trial of trap nests, I have come to the conclusion that every egg on a business poultry plant should be laid in one, so that the poor layers can be weeded out the first season, and the heavy layers kept through the second winter."

A correspondent of the *Egg Reporter* takes a very bearish view of the market and estimates that early November found 450,000 cases of storage eggs in the coolers of Chicago alone. He quotes a prominent New York dealer as saying that in the space of 28 years he has never seen a time when he regarded with so much suspicion the egg question. The season to move storage stock is October 1 to December 15, and stock not sold during that time is always looked upon as held for speculation.

"Candling" is still the name of the process of testing eggs, although the candle has gone out of date, says the St. Louis *Globe-Democrat*. In the dark room of the poultry and egg house hangs an electric light. It is in a case with two bright eyes. The egg testers sit on either side of the electric light. They raise two eggs at a time from the cases in which they come from the buyers, and hold them for a moment between the electric eyes and the human vision. The decision is instant. The movement which follows is so rapid that it is hard to follow.

A very successful egg farmer once told Col. Roessle that in winter he always had something in his coops for his hens to pick at—scattered grain, a cabbage hanging up, and even bones with a little meat on them, always something to find in order that his flock should not contract lazy habits. In this he was humorizing the natural instinct of the animal. A hen let run at large is almost always hunting, picking and scratching—first at a blade of grass, then a bug, then a worm and next a seed.

Col. Roessle thinks yarded hens lay more eggs than fowls let run. They cost more to keep, but the returns in eggs are usually larger. The fact is that yarded hens fed on food which is chosen because it will make eggs, convert this food into eggs, as it is intended they should, whereas if let run and fed the same way, they are apt to convert the food into flesh and muscle rather than eggs.

About Broilers and Roasters.

Quality and Shipment Improved—The Weights of Chicks—Stall-fed vs. Range-fed Poultry—Standard-bred Fowls Are Not Best for Either Eggs or Flesh.

Market regularly.
Get ready for broilers.
Never market poor stock.
Work to the fullest capacity.
Create a demand for your stock.
Work for a gilt-edged reputation.
Rhode Island Reds make grand table poultry.
Buff color does not show dark pin feathers.
No meat can excel that of the Langshan for flavor and juiciness.
Don't let cold-storage prices scare you—the better class of buyers are ever ready to pay for fresh prime stock.

L. L. Doolittle, in *American Fancier*, thinks the Buff Plymouth Rock or the Buff Wyandotte make the best broiler or roaster.

Start an incubator with eggs each week, so that, after started, there will be a new lot of chicks coming in as one leaves for market.

France is just now turning her attention to the most profitable plan of killing and dressing poultry for market purposes, says an English journal.

The New York Produce Review says the quality of poultry received in the markets shows much improvement over the stock shipped a few years ago, and the rapidly increasing shipments of capons show that the poultymen are taking advantage of the latest and most improved methods of marketing their stock.

American Gardening says: For the first six weeks there is but little difference in the weight of chicks of any of the breeds as compared with the others. If one should affirm that a Leghorn chick will weigh as much as a Brahma it would excite surprise, yet in the experiments with chicks of different breeds, when weighed in lots of ten, there was but very little difference between the large and small breeds. After the first six weeks, however, there was a gradual increase and gain on the part of the large breeds, but even when eight weeks old the difference was not very great.

The epicure undoubtedly prefers, if he cannot always procure, the stall-fed fowl; but the general market calls for the range-fed bird, because it sells at lower price, says *American Poultry Journal*. Delicacy of flavor and tenderness of meat can be best secured by selected rations and quiet development of tissue in confinement. We assert that there are a sufficient number of wealthy families in every large city to justify the catering to this class, just as there are persons who buy expensive clothing instead of the equally warm but cheaper goods. If poultymen will produce high-grade fowls for table (not market) trade, they can find a place to put them at a nice profit. Excellent rates higher than ordinary.

Texas Farm and Ranch endorses A FEW HENS' policy as follows: "Mike

Boyer, who is an experienced and successful market poultry raiser, and a recognized authority on the subject, declares that standard-bred fowls are not the best for either eggs or flesh. He advocates the use of pure breeds, bred for the purposes desired. This is good poultry sense. We have advocated the same policy and been denounced for so doing by editors of poultry journals who are more anxious to please fanciers, upon whose patronage they lean for support, than to teach the unadulterated truth. They cannot (or at least they think they cannot) afford to teach the correct theory of breeding, because their advertisers might object. They deal in standard-bred fowls, and want them lauded as the only fowls fit for any purpose, when, in fact, they are bred for show only. We are well satisfied, knowing we are right, and in good company."

Pointers on Food and Feeding.

Milk—Refuse Crackers—Value of Oats—Feeding for General Results—Feeding for Eggs—Fattening Foods—A Food Tonic—Hints for the Feeder—Treating Unsound Grain.

Have regular feeding hours. An all-grain diet is injurious. The hens need bulky material. An idle hen soon grows too fat to lay. Feeding for eggs is reduced to a science. Sweet milk is valuable as an egg producer. Clover hay should be cut in half-inch lengths. Feeding linseed meal too freely loosens the bowels. A hen appreciates a variety of food as well as a man. Too much butter-milk is apt to cause bowel troubles. Variety costs no more than one article all the time, and it pays. The ration must be composed of grain, and animal and vegetable foods. Clover hay, cooked and mixed with bran, makes a good morning feed.

M. E. S. Trap Nest. Plain, practical, accurate. 75c., two \$1.40, three \$2. No paint or varnish. Satisfaction or money back. G. J. Ritter, Park Ridge, N. J.

WHITE P. ROCKS. Jersey Beauty Stay-Whites. Hens strain. Satisfaction assured. Eggs, \$2 per 15; \$5 per 45. Rev. W. T. Dorward, Stelton, N. J.

BARRED and BUFF P. ROCKS, BUFF COCHINS, WH. WYANDOTTES and HOUDANS. Large, vigorous cockerels bred from prolific layers, \$2 up. Year-old cocks, \$2, \$3. Few year-old hens. 200-egg hot water Reliable incubator, good order, low. W. H. SCOVIL, Box S, East Lebanon, Maine.

1776 POULTRY FARM, Warner, N. H. W. Wyandottes, R. I. Reds. Standard bred. Wonderful layers of large brown eggs. Vigorous, blocky built, farm-raised beauties. Stock \$1.00 to \$3.00 each. Write your wants.

WHITE Wyandotte, B. P. Rock and Black Minorca cockerels that are right. Let me know just what you want. I will make the price right and give price back if not as represented. Bred from best strains only. Would exchange cockerels for pullets of same breeds and merit. E. P. Elitharp Watertown, N. Y.

"D" **Crushed Oyster Shells,**
Crushed Flint,
Calcite,
Ground Brick,
Ground Beef Scraps,
Meat Meal,
Granulated Bone,
Bone Meal,
Send for samples and price-list
American Poultry Food Co.,
Box 948, York, Pa.

Refuse crackers can be bought quite cheaply and are a very fattening food. Try feeding cooked or scalded oats. We give them as a separate meal three times a week.

Remember that clover hay and green cut bone must be in every bill of fare for egg production.

Keep your layers moving, and to do this most successfully keep them rather under than overfed.

Buy a root cutter and cut up vegetables—feed them raw, and note how the fowls relish the treat.

The feeding should be done by one person who will take enough interest in it to make the results a study.

Chickens require more food than hens in proportion to their weight, nearly twice as much when very young.

Empty the drinking vessels at night, and do not fill in the morning until after you have given the fowls their breakfast.

As a fattening food oats are not equal to corn, but as an egg producer they are worthy of a trial, and once tried are sure to be retained.

Clover not only promotes digestion but also largely assists in supplying the elements necessary for the albumen of the carbonaceous food of the grains.

We believe in two full meals a day, but we want these meals divided for three

Nothing Under the Sun

will Make Hens Lay and keep them in healthy condition all the year round, like

BANNER EGG FOOD
and Tonic.

Thousands can testify to its excellent merits. A trial will convince you. 1 lb. can 25c., by mail 40c.; 5 cans \$1.00, on board express N. Y. City. If you want fresh eggs, and plenty of them, use this food as directed, and your hens must lay. Our Immense Catalogue free.

Excelsior Wire and Poultry Supply Co.,
28 Vesey Street, New York City.
W. V. RUSS, Proprietor.

When writing kindly mention this paper.

WHITE LECHORNS.

My stock is bred for heavy laying as well as for beauty. April-hatched cockerels, \$1.50 each. G. E. CHALFANT, Hammonton, N. J.

Save Your
MONEY.

To save your money, by getting more for it, ask your druggist to show you the 50-cent bottle of the old reliable

Johnson's Anodyne Liniment.

The new size contains over three times as much as the old 25-cent style. The superior quality of this Anodyne has never been equaled in a century. Every Mother needs it in the house. Our book on INFLAMMATION free. Price 25 and 50c. I. S. Johnson & Co., Boston, Mass.

EGGS. UTILITY. MEAT.
WHITE WYANDOTTES,
Fine, large, vigorous cockerels, \$1.50 to \$2.50 each. Write me your wants. Satisfaction guaranteed. E. G. GARBER, Bellville, Ohio.

feeds, viz.: A half meal in the morning, half meal at noon, and a full one at night.

The phosphates—salt, soda, magnesia, iron and nitrogen are easily obtained from the grasses, but in less proportion than from bran, says *Game Fanciers' Journal*.

Farm and Home says that each 100 pounds of poultry of the general purpose breeds should have about five pounds of grain food per day; that is, for 25 fowls weighing 4 pounds each. When we stop to consider that oats are the favorite grain for well-kept horses, and that oatmeal is an almost daily article of food in thousands of families, we see no precedent for discarding them from the henry, says *Practical Poultryman*.

A correspondent in *Farm and Home* says a food which seems to be calculated to give the greatest possible number of eggs is made as follows: 30 pounds of corn, 15 pounds oats, 10 pounds wheat, 10 pounds barley, and 15 pounds wheat bran.

As winter comes on avoid giving your poultry hot messes, says *Farm Journal*. Cook the food if you wish and feed it warm. Warm the grain you feed them, too. Take the chill off their drinking water. But don't give hot food, nor hot water.

G. A. C. Clarke, in *American Poultry Journal*, offers this as a good tonic: Take shelled corn in a bucket, and dampen it with water, then stir in about a quart of powdered air-slaked lime. Feed this twice a week as an evening meal. It will brighten their combs in good style.

Col. Roessle says the feeder should gather the eggs, and it is best for him to do it before he feeds. In this way he alone is able to decide which coops are the producers and which are not. If he gathers but three eggs, knowing the coop contains 20 layers, he is better able to decide how much or little to feed.

Feed sound grain even if it cost more than the other kind. Should you be so unfortunate as to have unsound grain on your hands, *Farm Journal* says scorch it well in the stove oven before feeding it. This will not make it equal to sound grain, but it will in most cases make it harmless. By charring some of it you get the beneficial effects of charcoal.

Fattening fowls on food mixed or moistened with skim milk instead of water produces whiter flesh and a superior flavor, says *Farm Journal*. Skim milk alone is a highly nitrogenous food; the carbo-hydrates have been removed in the butter, so that it is not a complete diet for any animal. The fat of the cream, however, can be cheaply substituted with corn or cornmeal. The oil in the cream is worth 18 or 20 cents a pound; that in corn, one cent.

Col. E. O. Roessle, in *Country Gentleman*, says there can be no set rules laid down for feeding layers in winter. All breeders have formulas and systems of feeding to produce eggs. These work well in the individual cases, but there are no two alike. The principal is about the same in every case, but what works well with one does not

work with another, and so on. Common sense and good judgment are very important, and will make the success of any breeder.

The *Poultry Keeper* says: For fattening poultry for market there is no ration equal to sweet potatoes and cornmeal. The small and unsaleable potatoes are serviceable as well as those that are larger. Cook them, and just before removing them from the fire add the cornmeal, feeding the mess when it is cold. About a pound of cornmeal to half a peck of sweet potatoes makes a fair ration. Sweet potatoes are not suitable for laying hens, as they contain a large amount of sugar, thus causing them to fatten too readily.

Always fatten a fowl as quickly as possible. Ten days is long enough to get a fowl fat, but it should be confined either in a coop or a number in a small yard. Give plenty of fresh water, and feed four times a day, beginning early and giving the last meal late. *Farm and Fireside* recommends a mixture of cornmeal, three parts; ground oats, one part; shorts, one part; crude tallow, one part, scalded, as the best for the first three meals, with all the corn and wheat that can be eaten up clean at night. Weigh the articles given, and do not feed by measure.

Questions Briefly Answered.

Condensed Replies to the Many Inquiries Received at This Office.

MATING.

W. S.: Wyandotte would make a good cross on Cochin and Brahma for eggs and meat.

BREEDS.

W. R.: The White Wyandottes are, as the name implies, a white plumaged breed, with a rose comb, rather small head, short neck; short, broad back; broad, deep breast; short, stout legs, free from feathers; yellow colored beak, legs and skin. For more complete description see the American Standard of Perfection.

C. P. W.: We have found that the Minorcas lay the largest white egg, and is a very satisfactory bird. For marketing, however, there is an objection to it on account of white skin and dark pin feathers. The White Leghorn lays a good-sized egg, and the carcass is better for marketing, as far as color of skin and pin feathers are concerned, but not quite so heavy as the Minorca.

BROILERS AND ROASTERS.

W. T. S.: In your market, at the prices you give, broilers would pay better

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NOT GENUINE WITHOUT SEAL

THE H-O CO'S
POULTRY FOOD

BUFFALO, N.Y.

CONTENTS
NOT GENUINE WITHOUT SEAL

THE H-O CO'S
POULTRY FOOD

BUFFALO, N.Y.

JUST FOR FUN

You can't afford to keep poultry just for fun. We assume that you keep hens because you want eggs, etc. You may or may not be getting satisfactory returns. It's largely a question of feed. Eggs consist largely of albumen.

**THE H-O CO'S
POULTRY FOOD**

predominates in albumen. That's why it doubles the egg product winter and summer. It makes fertile, sure-to-hatch eggs. It promotes growth in chicks and broilers. Makes pullets lay early, shortens the moulting season and produces "fine feathers." Fed as a mash in the morning. **H-O CO'S SCRATCHING FOOD** is the ideal evening food. Write for printed matter, etc.

THE H-O COMPANY

58 FULTON ST., - BUFFALO, N.Y.

Hatch Chickens by Steam

The simplest, best, most perfectly self-regulating and lowest-priced first-class hatcher made is the

EXCELSIOR Incubator

Guaranteed to hatch a larger percentage of fertile eggs at less cost than any other machine. Thousands in successful use. The best small incubator in existence is the **WOODEN HEN**. Capacity, 50 eggs; regulates itself; does just as good work as the highest priced machines. Catalogs mailed free.

CEO. H. STAHL,
114-122 S. 6th St., Quincy, Ill.

than roasters. But you could get a better price the entire season by shipping direct to Philadelphia or New York. Write to the commission merchants advertising in **A FEW HENS**.

C. P. W.: Howe's ration for broilers is as follows: First 10 days—1 pint cornmeal, 1 teacup bran, 1 teaspoonful ground meat, 1 raw egg, 1 teaspoonful soda, 1 teacup cold water; bake two hours, and feed crumbly. That is, practically, a johnnycake. After 10 days ground wheat, oats and corn, moistened. Oyster shell, bone and charcoal before the chicks in separate dishes.

C. P. W.: On the average market poultry farm the hens are disposed of as roasters just before they go into the second molt.

H. H. S.: The broiler months, in the general market, are from January to July.

DISEASES.

F. B. A.: The hard substance on the tongue is known as pip. Moisten it daily with a little glycerine.

D. L.: So long as you allow your rousy chicks to run with the well ones there will be no use of your trying to effect a cure. The bad cases should be killed off. As you have back numbers of **A FEW HENS** you can refer to them for treatment.

Mrs. H. C. C.: Strong bottom heat in the brooder no doubt was the cause of leg weakness in your chicks.

H. J. L.: For chicken pox, a wash with carbolic soapsuds, and then anointing with vaseline, is recommended.

K. J. H.: Feather eating is a vice, generally due to overcrowding in the pen. About the best remedy we know for it is to kill off the guilty ones as soon as discovered.

L. O. P.: You will generally find that you can successfully treat fowl diseases with the same remedies that will prove useful in similar complaints in the human race.

M. E. R.: What you term coughing is no doubt due to a bronchial affection. If taken in time, a teaspoonful of glycerine to which is added a few drops of Johnson's Anodyne Liniment will effect a cure.

D. F. G.: As we repeatedly said in these columns, we have very little faith in the cholera scare. During about ten years at answering queries on diseases, we have found that the average cholera complaint comes from such sections of the country where corn seems to be the main poultry food. Corn improperly fed will produce indigestion, and the majority of "cholera" cases are indigestion.

ARTIFICIAL INCUBATION.

W. T. S.: No rules can be adopted for applying moisture to a hatch, outside of the condition of the air cell of the egg. If the air cell on the 5th day measures about 1-4 inch, a 1-2 inch on the 10th day, 5-8 inch on the 15th day, and about 3-4 inch on the 19th day, no moisture at all is required. If less than that we know that the egg already has too much moisture; if more, there is a lack of moisture.

J. M. S.: We use the Prairie State Incubators on our farm, and find them excellent and reliable machines. Incubator lamps and poultry supplies generally can be purchased from several parties advertising in **A FEW HENS**.

H. H. S.: No, we do not know of a better brooder (for the money—and in many cases more costly ones) than the \$5 Champion brooder.

D. C. D.: So far we are very well pleased with our above-ground incubator room, but cannot yet report on winter work, as this will be the first winter it is built.

J. M. S.: We intend starting our incubators on broilers next month. Some market men begin in December, and some even in September. Much depends upon your market.

P. W. B.: If your brooders are what are known as outdoor brooders, almost any kind of house, with a window in front to let in the light will do. After careful trial we have come to the conclusion that we want to protect ourselves from bad weather while attending to the chicks.

DUCKS.

W. R. T.: We think you have answered your query yourself, as to the fertility of your duck eggs, when you say you fed liberally. In all probability you have overfattened them.

WHY?



Why was the only award to bone cutters at the World's Fair, Chicago, given to the **Webster & Hannum Bone Cutter**?

Because wherever it has come into competition with other machines it has proved every claim we make—cuts faster and easier, cuts meat and gristle without clogging, and is the only absolutely self-feeding and self-regulating cutter made. We guarantee money back to any dissatisfied purchaser.

Ask about **Stearns Clover Cutters and Grit Crushers**. Send for free booklet on poultry feeding.

E. C. STEARNS & CO., Box 6, Syracuse, N. Y.

I. K. FELCH & SON,
Box K, Natick, Mass.

Light Brahmans, Plymouth Rocks, and White Wyandottes,
—BRED ON PRACTICAL LINES.—
Standard Points and Egg Records Combined.
Enclose stamps for 24 page catalogue.

MAKE HENS LAY
They can't be profitable unless they do. They can't help laying if fed on **Green Cut Bone and Granite Crystal Grit**. They double the eggs.
Mann's New Bone Cutters
cut bone in the fastest, cheapest and easiest way. **Mann's Clover Cutter and Swinging Feed Tray** pay for themselves quickly. Cash or installments. Illustrated catalogue **FREE**.
F. W. MANN CO., Box 67 Milford, Mass.

Steyers' Lice Powder

destroys lice on poultry, live stock and house plants. Large sample mailed for 15 cents. For sale by first-class dealers. **A. F. STEYER & CO.**, 2805 North 18th Street, Philadelphia Pa.

EGGS.

W. S.: It is necessary to do some advertising to become known to the poultry world before a trade can be established in the sale of eggs for hatching. While you are building up that reputation, the most profitable plan is to turn your attention to table eggs and market poultry.

Mrs. F. H. P.: 300 hens, properly fed and cared for, should bring an income of \$500 a year at the prices you get for your table eggs. Ordinarily, it is figured that a hen will give a profit of \$1.00 per head, but your prices will do a little better than that for you.

C. H. G.: The fertility of eggs is governed by the condition and vigor of the breeding stock. Directly, a cold house has nothing to do with fertility, and indirectly it has, for unless fowls are comfortable, they will be out of condition and not be very active.

P. C.: Thin, watery eggs are a warning that the hens are not in proper condition, probably due to sloppy food or

COCKERELS Leg. & Rks. 5 varieties. Cir. Edw. Lafot, Lakefield, Minn.

RHODE ISLAND RED (dark) and W. W. Cockerels, \$1.50 to \$3.00. Mated Toulouse geese from prize stock, \$5.00. CLARKE & CO., Waquoit, Mass.

U—WANT—M

Early hatched B. P. Rocks and White Wyandotte cockerels, bred for eggs and meat. Also S. C. W. Leghorn yearlings. C. H. Brooks, Stoneham, Mass.

POULTRY Supplies

of every description. Illustrated catalogue free.
THE I. F. (SCHOTT CO., Box 194, New Pittsburg, (Wayne County), Ohio.

Circulars Free.

300 4-page folders FREE to any poultryman who'll use them in correspondence. Adv. of poultry books inside; last page (3-5), your adv. limited to 100 words, you to send 25 cents as part postage.
J. W. DARROW, Pub. Poultry Books, Chatham, N. Y.

PURELY BUSINESS BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS.

Strong, practical stock, bred for profit. Excellent layers. Cockerels and pullets \$1.50 to \$2.50 each.

E. O. JOSLYN, Hammonton, N. J.

All for One Dollar!

Profitable Poultry Farming, retail,	-	-	25 Cents.
A Living From Poultry,	"	-	25
Broilers for Profit,	"	-	50
Farm-Poultry Doctor,	"	-	50
A Few Hens, monthly, one year,	-	-	25
Total,			\$1.75.

By ordering at once will send the above collection for \$1.00. Address,

MICHAEL K. BOYER, Box A, HAMMONTON, (Atlantic Co.) New Jersey.

BUFF ROCKS

The Best of All-Purpose Fowl. Bargains in old and young stock. Some grand cockerels weigh 6 pounds each now. A few choice Buff Cochin Bantams for sale.

For Rocks address N. D. Ford, Medway, N. Y. For Bantams address E. E. Ford, Oak Hill, N. Y.

Parsons' Pills

"Best Liver Pill Made." Positively cure biliousness and sick headache, liver and bowel complaints. Delicate women find relief from using them. Price 25 cts.; five \$1.00. Pamphlet free. **I. S. JOHNSON & CO.**, 22 Custom House St., Boston.

UTILITY MEN!

What are a few dollars invested in a cockerel which, bred to your hens, will increase your egg yield 12 eggs per hen, per year? My **BROWN LEG-HORNS** are bred from heavy layers, and they are fit to be seen in any company. Cockerels going at \$1.50 each in December and January. **THOMAS T. OSGOOD**, Randolph, N. Y.

an excess of vegetable stuff in their bill of fare. Remove the cause, if in the feed, and if not, try to remedy the condition of the hen.

FOOD AND FEEDING.

A. M. B.: The sand and gravel found on the beach are hardly large enough for grit. Grit should not be quite as large as whole corn, and not smaller than a grain of wheat.

C. A. F.: At the prices you are paying for grain, it will cost from 10 to 15 cents per pound to raise your chickens to 5 months of age.

S. W.: Hulled broom corn seed is a good food for variety. Cane seed and millet are excellent for scattering among light scratching litter. It makes both chicks and fowls work. Pop corn is good for variety.

S. W.: We have always considered the feeding of pumpkins to fowls more or less dangerous, especially when the seeds are given.

G. C.: In bills of fare given in A FEW HENS, where the expression is used "equal parts of each," etc., *measurement* and not *weight* is implied.

G. C.: When corn is fed at night, it is best not to include cornmeal in the morning mash.

G. C.: In the ration you give: "1 peck of middlings, 1 peck ground oats, 1 peck meat scraps, 3 pecks bran," you feed the meat scraps too strongly. A half-peck of meat scraps would be about right.

G. C.: Bowker's Animal Meal is the best substitute for green bone that we have ever tried. Scraps from a soap factory are apt to be too fat.

A. A.: Green bone should be fed the day it is cut. Uncut bones can be safely kept several days during cold weather.

O. C. B.: Clover heads, steeped over night in scalding water, make a good, strong tea. Mix tea and heads in the morning mash, and you have one of the very best egg foods.

G. D. Y.: For 30 hens feed about two pounds of green cut bone twice a week.

F. M. S.: The H-O Poultry Food is a profitable feed for egg production, whether for market or other purposes.

E. H. H.: Your plan of feeding the sour milk after being heated so that the curd separates, and then pressing out the whey and feeding it crumbly is a good one. Milk in almost any form is excellent. Our favorite method is to get it boiling hot and then mixing with the ground grain.

E. H. H.: Feeding boiled potatoes in the morning mash, in the proportion of one-half, is pretty heavy—one-fourth would be better.

E. H. H.: We feed corn during the winter, but never exclusively. Generally we give a mixture of two-thirds of cracked corn.

E. H. H.: We cook our clover hay in the evening, and then let it steep all night. The next morning we give it another heating, and mix in our ground grain. This gives them a warm breakfast. During fall, winter and spring we feed a light breakfast and dinner, and a full supper.

E. H. H.: We feed green cut bone twice a week, and Bowker's Animal Meal every day.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A. M. B.: You could no doubt get the kind of pigeons you want at any bird store in New York city. W. V. Russ, 28 Vesey street, New York city, is a reliable party to deal with.

Mrs. F. C.: The most practical and economical poultry house we know of is the scratching shed, same as used on the A FEW HENS' Experimental Poultry Farm.

B. F. C.: In all our trials with trap nests we have not yet had a hen break an egg in the nest in her trying to get out.

C. F. P.: As your house is lined on the inside with heavy paper, the best plan to keep it free from vermin and bad odor would be to kerosene the roosts every week and about once a month disinfect by burning sulphur in it.

C. F. P.: We should advise changing the tobacco stems in the nest every two weeks.

J. E. C.: Our breeding pens are 7 x 16 feet (roosting part 7 x 6, scratching 7 x 10 feet), in which we quarter very comfortably 14 hens and a cock.

S. H. J.: We have seen a machine used for dusting fowls, but cannot say that we like it. We prefer the old style of rubbing the dust among the feathers.

F. M. S.: The Evans' root cutter is a strictly first-class machine. We use one on our farm and would not know how to do without it.

G. F. H.: The Reliable Nest Box is a good one. We have given it a fair trial, and have reported our opinion in these columns.

E. H. H.: We have our dropping platform 18 inches from the ground, and the roosts are six inches above that.

E. H. H.: We prefer the open front scratching sheds. That is, a front closed with wire netting to keep the fowls indoors during snowy or bad weather. At night, and during heavy storms, we drop curtains back of the wire.

E. H. H.: Roosts should be run lengthwise of the dropping platform, and not in small sections across it.

J. A. H.: Chicks can be marked by punching a hole in the web of the foot almost any time after being hatched, usually on the second day.

C. H. G.: It would be impossible for us to give you plans for houses for quartering from 1,000 to 5,000 hens. We never did believe in these gigantic

SEED DUE BILL FREE

To get new customers to test my Seeds, I will mail my 1900 Catalogue, filled with more bargains than ever and a 10c Due Bill good for 10c worth of Seeds for trial absolutely free. All the Best Seeds, Bulbs, Plants, Roses, Farm Seeds, Potatoes, etc., at lowest prices. Nine Great Novelties offered without names. I will pay \$50. FOR A NAME for each. Many other novelties offered, including Ginseng, the great money making plant. Over 20 varieties shown in colors. \$1100 in cash premiums offered. Don't give your order until you see this new catalogue. You'll be surprised at my bargain offers. Send your name on a postal for catalogue today. It is FREE to all. Tell your friends to send too.

F. B. MILLS, Box 18 Rosehill, Onondaga Co., N. Y.

ROUP positively cured by Vivine Roup Tablets: price 75c., sample size, 30c. Send price and receive package by return mail. VIVINE CHEM. CO., 9 1-2 Appleton St., Boston, Mass.

POULTRY SUPPLIES.

We are wholesale jobbers of all the best STANDARD POULTRY SPECIALTIES, and want to quote you prices on large or small amounts.

VIGOR PREPARED MEAT
(IS UNEXCELLED)

VIGOR SCRATCH FOOD
(OUR OWN BRAND)

CYPHER'S INCUBATORS,
LEE'S and LAMBERT'S

LICE KILLER,
CLOVER MEAL,

and all the rest. Don't buy any of these things until you get our fine illustrated catalogue of POULTRY SUPPLIES, and if wanted in quantity, our special prices by letter.

JOHNSON & STOKES,
Seedsmen,
217-218 Market St., PHILADELPHIA PA.

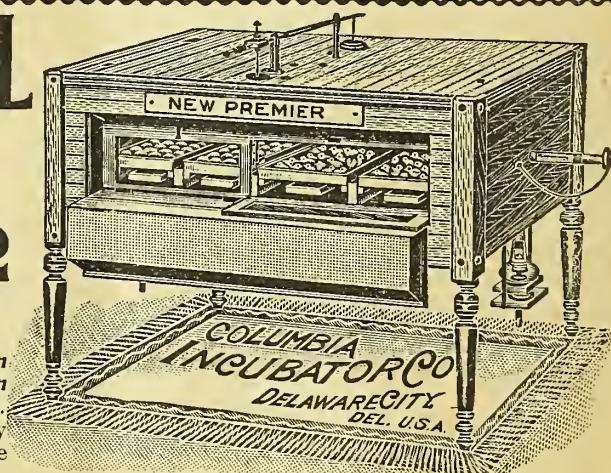
ON TRIAL OUR NEW PREMIER... INCUBATOR

*Not One Cent to be paid
until tried.*

 Any responsible person
can get our machine on
trial and send money after trial.
Get it, put it in competition with any
other machine made. Descriptive
catalogue mailed for 5c.

Merits A child can run it. AUTOMATIC.
Five minutes attention a day will run it.
Ten cents worth of oil will make a hatch.
No expensive buildings needed for it.
Can be run under a shed, attic roof or
anywhere out of rain and wind.

SET OF PLANS FOR POULTRY HOUSES, 25c.
We are also Exclusive Manufacturers of the
Von Culin Simplicity and Columbia incubators.



Diplomas and Medals World's Fair, Chicago, 1893
Toronto Exposition, Canada, 1894
Tennessee Centennial, 1897
Trans-Mississippi Exposition, 1898
Can be run with or without moisture.

COLUMBIA INCUBATOR CO.,
23 Adams St., Delaware City, Del.

schemes. Just as soon as a man thinks of going into the poultry business for speculation he lays extensive plans. Begin small and gradually grow up to what you want. No man can hope to succeed in running a 1,000-hen farm before he has the practical knowledge of handling 100 head.

N. M. L.: Hens prefer dark nests, especially when the hens are of a nervous disposition. Tame hens in this respect are not choicier.

J. C. G.: Hens generally sit very close on the roost at night. In putting up roosts, allow about 9 inches for our American breeds, a foot for the Asiatics, and 7 inches for the Mediterranean.

Poultry at the U. S. Stations.

Interesting Experiments Tried by North Carolina Experiment Station—Breed vs. Breed—Rations for Hens and Methods of Feeding—Weight of Eggs—Feeding Flavor Into Eggs.

The record given in Bulletin No. 167, of the North Carolina Station (Raleigh) shows that for high production, weight of eggs produced as well as economy in production, pullets far outstrip hens. Young, vigorous stock is the best stock to keep.

The greatest production of eggs from pullets have been made in this order: Light Brahma, Silver Laced Wyandotte, Black Langshan, Barred Plymouth Rock and Single Comb Brown Leghorn. White Wyandotte, White Plymouth Rock, Black Minorca and Buff Cochin at the foot of this list.

The greatest production of weight of eggs, brings the birds in a little different order. Among the pullets this order is: Light Brahma, Silver Laced Wyandotte, Black Langshan, Barred Plymouth Rock, White Wyandotte and White Plymouth Rock; with Black Minorca, Leghorns and Buff Cochins last.

In production of weight of eggs no hens were equal to the pullets of the same breed, except Brown Leghorn and Buff Cochin, and these were the poorest producers of weight of eggs.

During the previous year, the Station's methods of feeding stock were changed somewhat, and a system of supplying food in proportion to weight of fowls was begun. Under the watchful eye of F. E. Hege this worked very well. All birds were given a fairly well-balanced ration, and received this in proportion to weight.

When the birds were fairly using the new rations some of the larger breeds would be reduced somewhat from the full amount indicated by weight, if habits or gains in weight indicated the need; others of smaller, more active breeds would be increased in proportion as they showed the need of more food, or could use it.

The rations fed during the first half of 1899 were made up as follows: 4 parts of wheat bran, 2 parts of wheat middlings, and 1 part of cornmeal are shoveled together and form the morning food. This is weighed out for each yard every morning, and its pro-

portion of crimson clover hay cut fine and steamed is added, then the whole is moistened up, using hot water in cold weather, and the cut fresh bone is then mixed into the mass.

The morning feed amounts to one-third of the day's ration of meal, plus the clover and cut bone.

The afternoon feed was for a time scattered out on the ground where birds must scramble and hunt for it. Later, straw was scattered in and under houses, and the grain sown into the straw, and hens must scratch the straw to find the afternoon feed. The fat, lazy hen goes to bed hungry on this system, and should soon become a worker and layer of eggs.

The Bulletin says: "This evening feed consists of corn, oats and wheat screenings. The proportions fed are six of oats, and the same of screenings, for two of corn, all by weight. In order to maintain proportions and make a variety in the bill of fare, we feed as follows:

"Supposing we start with wheat screenings on the evening of the first day, and follow with oats on the second, etc. Wheat screenings, 1; oats, 2; wheat screenings, 3; corn, 4; oats, 5; wheat screenings, 6; oats, 7; then, with corn cracked, a feed is made up of these three in a mixture of three each of oats and wheat screenings to

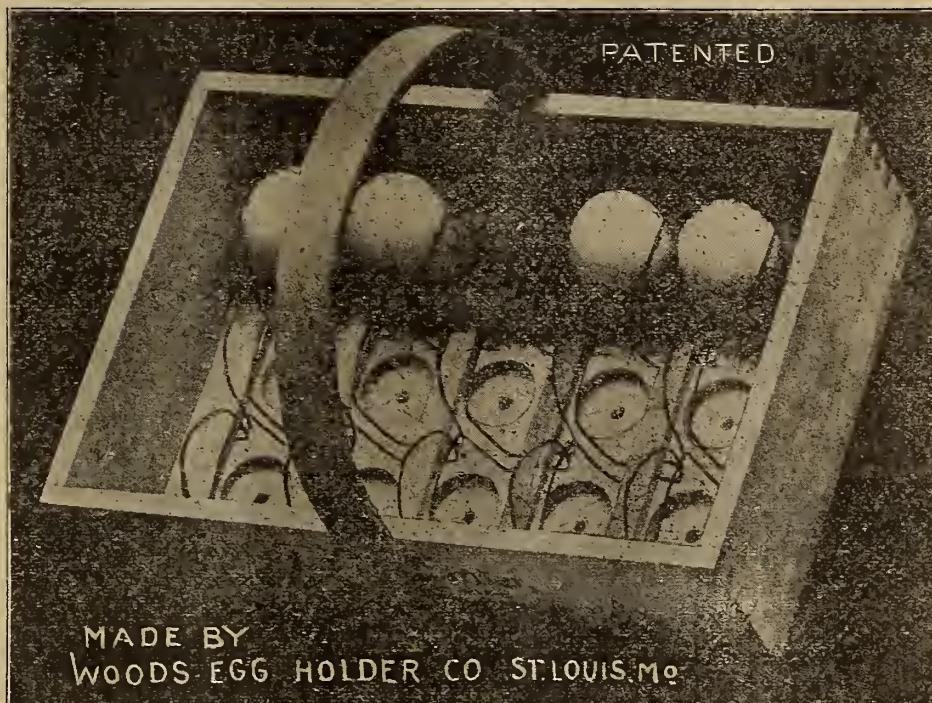
one of cracked corn, and the same weight of the mixture is fed as when feeding on other days. After 10 days we return to the first day's ration, and go over the same variations again. This time we may need to increase to some, and decrease to others. This is done in percentage, so the birds get the rations exact every day, except omissions of bones, which, with the hay, have been added since the ration was calculated."

It is a point of some interest to know how heavy the eggs are from each breed of hens, also the difference in weight between the eggs of pullets and hens within each breed.

People are generally interested to know which breed lays the most eggs, but comparatively few people know or think of the fact that some breed may yield more food value in weight contained in fewer eggs than another breed puts into a considerable larger number.

The heaviest eggs are from the ducks. These weigh nearly 2 1-4 pounds per dozen. The average weights of the ducks is but four and one-tenth pounds.

MAKE HENS LAY when Eggs are high. This Priceless Secret of Success with Poultry is fully told in our New Poultry Book which is sent Free as a Premium with our Poultry Paper 3 mos for 10 cents. Address, W. P. CO., Clintonville, Conn.



"Fancier's Favorite" Package.

CATALOGUE FREE if you mention where you saw this ad. Don't wait for "Spring rush." Order now. Prepaid sample by Ex. 25 cts.

THE ADAM GREEN BONE CUTTER

This is the Bone Cutter

—and indeed the only one which is equipped with ball bearings. That's why it runs so easily. It cuts on the shear plate principle. No gouging, crushing or breaking of bone into pieces or dangerous bone splinters.

Leaves a Shaving of Bone,

fine and easily consumed by fowl or chick. Easiest to clean — cleans itself. Feeds at will of operator. Strong and durable. Large capacity. Made in various sizes for hand and power. Write for our illustrated Catalogue No. 1, prices, etc.

W. J. ADAM, JOLIET, ILL.

The Light Brahma lays the largest hens' eggs, and these are 1 3-4 pounds per dozen. The lightest eggs are from Leghorn pullets, a little under 1 1-8 pounds per dozen. Therefore, at the same price per dozen, if the Leghorn eggs are worth the price—13 1-2 or 12 cents per pound—the eggs of other breeds, as indicated by the above weights, should be worth, and the producer will furnish, and the purchaser receive, the following values:

S. C. Brown Leghorn pullets' eggs, hens,	13 1-2 cts.
Silver Laced Wyandotte, pullets, hens,	16.3
Light Brahma, pullets, hens,	16.6
White Wyandotte, pullets, hens,	17.5
White Plymouth Rock, pullets, hens,	17.7
Buff Cochinchina, pullets, hens,	17.8
Black Langshan, pullets, hens,	17.8
Barred Plymouth Rock, pullets, hens,	18.2
Cochin-Langshan, pullets, hens,	19.7
Black Minorca, pullets, hens,	19.9
Black Langshan, hens,	20.44
Light Brahma, hens,	21.6
Pekin Duck, old and young,	26.7

On what other article of food will people be content to pay the same price for what may vary over 50 per cent. in value? Or what producer of merchantable produce of any other kind will consent to supply all the way up 55 per cent. more than market value, and not think to add to the standard price for additional value?

It is perhaps an open question with some people whether the flavor of articles of food ever reappears in the eggs produced by hens.

The facts will not be denied for milk after a cow has been regaled on a pasture containing wild onions. Neither will it, if the cow is fed turnips, or cabbage, within a few hours before milking. The flesh is probably tainted, and we have heard reports of fried chicken flavored with onion from the recent feeding of the birds.

In March, 1899, an experiment was begun to find if a small proportion of onion salad with the poultry food would flavor the eggs sufficiently to be noticeable, and if so, how long a time would be required to make the flavor noticeable; and, third, how long can the flavor be detected after the onions are left out of food.

On the 16th inst. wild onion tops and bulbs were pulled on a grassy plat, and one-half ounce for each hen in a yard of 12 birds of different breeds was mixed into the morning feed. This was kept up regularly until the flavor was satisfactorily determined and the onions dropped out. The first four days of April a double amount of onion was fed, one ounce per bird, and April 5th no onion was fed and none afterwards.

In the family of the Agriculturist a number of trials down to March 31 failed to convince anyone of onion flavor in eggs from yard-fed onions.

On March 31st the flavor of onions was distinctly recognized by five persons—the Agriculturist and his wife, and eldest daughter, and others. One member could detect no flavor of onion in egg dated March 31st.

On April 5th tried eggs laid April 3d, and no one could bear the eggs be-

cause of the strong flavor. Those who did not know and recognize the flavor say "they did not like the eggs."

Geese for Profit.

Valuable Pointers Taken From the 1897 Report of the Rhode Island Experiment Station.

A quiet, docile goose does better than a shy one.

Eggs have been hatched on the 40th day of incubation.

Some breeders wash the eggs if covered with mud, while others do not.

Sprinkling the floor to keep the air of the place moist is recommended.

Turkeys will hatch goose eggs nicely, but are rarely used for that purpose.

Geese are generally allowed to sit on a part of the second or third litters laid.

Ducks are sometimes employed to hatch goose eggs, and will cover 7 to 9 eggs. The eggs should be gathered as soon after they are laid as possible, to avoid their being chilled.

A goose is usually given 11 eggs for a sitting, although a very large one might cover thirteen.

The fertile eggs usually hatch at the end of 28 or 30 days, but a longer time is occasionally required.

When each goose has her own nest she can easily be set at the end of the second or third litter as desired.

PRACTICAL prize-taking stock. Barred and White Rocks, White Wyandottes, R. I. Reds, S. C. B. Leghorns and Black Javas. Cockerels \$1.25 and up. G. A. CHAPIN, Hampden, Mass.

ONE HUNDRED FARM-RAISED COCKERELS

B. P. Rocks and White Wyandottes, \$1.50 and \$2.00. Black Minorcas and Brown Leghorns, \$1.00 and \$1.50; also B. P. Rock and Brown Leghorn pullets cheap, ALBERT HAINES, Masonville, N. J.

Stroud's Wyandottes.

My Whites are bred for utility points, yet win at shows in hot competition. At Phila. show I won 5th on cockerel, in a large class, and 1st and 2d on eggs. Some very nice cockerels for sale at fair prices. Eggs, one setting for \$2.00; two for \$3.50; three for \$5.00. Also incubator eggs. Have added a pen of extra fine Buffs, and will sell a few eggs at \$3. Try our Cut Clover, it is the best; 50 lbs. for \$1. WM. F. STROUD, Merchantville, N. J.

Child's Wyandottes WHITES and SILVERS EXCLUSIVELY.

EGGS FOR HATCHING FROM STRONG, FARM-RAISED STOCK.

SEND STAMP FOR CIRCULAR.

WM. H. CHILD, Hatboro, Pa.

POULTRY SUPPLIES

Mica Crystal Grit, Per 100 lbs. \$.75
 Crushed Oyster Shell, Per 100 lb. bag, .75
 Ground Bone, Per 100 lb. bag, 2.00
 Pike's Lice Destroyer, per gallon, .75
 We make lower prices for large quantities
 Send for Descriptive Circulars.

SHIP US YOUR POULTRY AND EGGS SPRAGUE COMMISSION CO., 218 South Water St., Chicago, Ill.

After the eggs have been incubated for about 7 to 10 days they can be tested, and the infertile ones taken out.

The eggs should be kept in a moderately warm place, not too dry, and should be turned over every day until set.

Children should never be allowed to approach geese during incubation, as they are capable of inflicting serious injury.

Eggs can be successfully hatched in incubators, but most of the breeders in Rhode Island set the eggs under hens or geese.

If the nests of the geese are properly provided with straw, the eggs will never be sufficiently soiled to require washing.

Five to seven eggs, according to the size of the hen, are enough, as they require considerable heat, and should be well covered.

Hens are generally used to hatch the first eggs, and for this purpose quite large hens, as Brahma or Cochins, are generally preferred.

Liberty Poultry Farm, HARRINGTON PARK, N. J.

Eggs for hatching from standard bred White Wyandottes, Barred Fly. Rocks and White Leghorns. Mated for size and egg production. \$1.50 per setting; \$6.00 per 100. Pekin Ducks eggs, \$1.50 per setting; \$7.00 per 100. 100 choice Barred Rock pullets at \$1.50, and 50 yearling hens at \$1.00 each.

WE BREED for BUSINESS

B. P. Rocks, S. C. Brown Leghorns and Improved Pekin Ducks. If you want large, vigorous, great laying stock, we have it. Eggs \$1.25 per 13; \$5 per 100; \$3.50 a 100 for Rock and Leghorn cross. They make the finest winter layers in the world; try them. Good Pekin Ducks \$1.25 each. Two 300-egg; two Special Duck Prairie State Incubators, and 60-foot Brooder plant, at bargain.

MARYBROOK RANCH, Fannettsburg, Pa.

Popular Poultry Books.

"The Hen Business" from A to Z, being chapters from practical everyday experience with poultry covering a long period of years. By Mrs. May Taylor. The book has 20 chapters, each one of which may prove worth the price of the book to amateurs. Mrs. Taylor is a practical writer for the poultry press, and in this book has condensed the experience of a lifetime in poultry raising. Price 25 Cents.

"Low Cost Poultry Houses." A book of great practical value to every one who contemplates building a poultry house. It contains plans and specifications with cost of material for structures worth from \$25 to \$100. Also a chapter on fixtures and conveniences for the poultry house. These plans are those of buildings in actual existence, not imaginary air castles. 48 pages. Price 25 Cents.

"The Art of Poultry Breeding." By J. H. Davis. A book which combines the practical and scientific in poultry breeding, and treats the subjects of Out-crossing, In-breeding, Breeding to Feather, Cross-breeding, etc., enabling one to breed intelligently and for profit. 46 pages. Price 25 Cents.

"500 Questions and Answers on Poultry Keeping." A new edition (the fourth) making 23,000 copies that have been printed. It is "a mine of information," as the Poultry Monthly says, written in form of practical questions authoritatively answered. Chap. I, Feed and Care. Chap. II, Diseases. Chap. III, Eggs. Chap. IV, Incubators and Incubation. Chap. V, Buildings. Chap. VI, Miscellaneous. Chap. VII, Turkeys, Ducks and Geese. Price 25 Cents.

"Uncle Rastus on Poultry," or the Possum Creek Poultry Club. By J. H. Davis. A humorous book written in pure negro dialect, but contains much common sense in its 109 pages and 14 chapters. The chapter on "Score Cards and Judging" and "The Chicken Business and Free Silver," are of unusual interest. Well illustrated. Price 25 Cents.

"Pigeon Queries." A book for pigeon fanciers and breeders, written in question and answer form. F. M. Gilbert has written a chapter for this book entitled, "The Pigeon from Shell to Show Room." Ofttimes a single practical answer to a question will be the means of saving a valuable bird. Price 25c.

An Egg Record, good for one year, with spaces for eggs collected, sold, set, price, etc. Price 10c.

Any two Books 40c.; All for \$1.00.

Address J. W. DARROW, Publisher,
 Box 3, Chatham, N. Y.

The broody goose plucks off more or less down from her breast with which to line the nest and cover the eggs whenever she leaves them.

Usually the vitality is somewhat affected by keeping eggs too long, and the goslings are not so strong and active as when hatched from fresh-laid eggs. A basement, or a fairly close building, where a reasonably mild and uniform temperature can be maintained, makes an excellent place for setting hens or goose eggs.

The shells and lining membranes of goose eggs are thicker and tougher than those of hens' eggs, and care has to be exercised that they do not become too dry.

The ganders should be left with the geese during incubation. They will remain near the nest of their favorite and courageously defend her from any intrusion.

It is well to place food and water near the nest of the sitting goose at hatching time, so that she will be less likely to leave the nest before all the goslings are hatched.

Eggs under a goose seldom need attention, as more or less moisture is brought to the nest when the goose bathes, as she will at intervals, if allowed the opportunity.

Many breeders sprinkle the eggs and nest during the last two weeks of incubation, and still others dip the eggs into water instead of sprinkling them. Some use lukewarm water, others use cold water.

It is better that one person should care for the geese regularly, and he should be quiet and gentle in his movements, so as to gain the confidence of the flock and make them as tame as possible. The advantage of this will be evident when the geese wish to sit during incubation, and while the goslings are small.

Notes in Passing.

News in the Market Poultry World—Hints that May Be of Value—Paragraphs from Our Exchanges.

Details need watching.

Keep strangers out of the poultry runs. A lazy man has no business in the poultry yard.

The removal of scratching litter before it becomes too damp is a necessity for best results.

The farmer is rightly situated to make poultry pay if he will only improve his opportunities.

No one who is not a close observer need expect to make a very decided success in the poultry business.

Successful poultrymen are nearly always fond of fowls, and spend much time in studying their habits.

It takes a watchful eye and a constant interested scrutiny of the whole flock to make success assured.

Work and constant attention to details is the only way in which the poultry business can be made to pay.

The advice of "cleaning out the hen house once a week," should not be classed as a cleanly method at all.

Much of the success of the season in your poultry yard will depend upon

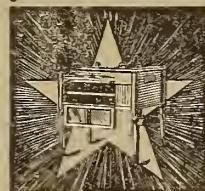
ridding the premises of your unprofitable fowls.

The poultry keeper who follows the daily cleaning method is the one who looks after the other essentials, considering them equally as important. Cleanliness in winter is probably more necessary than in summer from the fact that the fowls are obliged, on account of the much longer nights and many severe days, to spend more time in the houses.

The conditions of the flock are very important to observe, and those who properly look after them know that feeding, comfortable housing and good protection are the factors that keep the poultry in health and result in profit.

A flock of fowls kept under the once-a-week cleaning method cannot but help feeling the effects of being compelled to exist in such a vile atmosphere. Such a flock, from these very conditions, are much more susceptible to disease.

IN EVERY TEST THE Star Incubator



hatches the largest percentage of chicks—strong chicks, too. That's why experienced poultrymen are discarding all others.

Positive directions for ventilation. Requires no moisture.

Our \$10 Star Brooder is unequalled. Catalogue for the asking.

STAR INCUBATOR COMPANY,
22 Church Street, Bound Brook, N. J.

New York Office, 68 Murray St.

Average Record of 180 Eggs from

White Wyandottes

EGGS \$1.50 PER SITTING.

SILVER WYANDOTTES extra fine stock, Eggs \$1.50 a sitting
C. K. NELSON, Hammonton, N. J.

PIONEER CLOVER MEAL
THE BENNETT & MILLETT CO., GOVERNEUR, N. Y.

THE WINTER LAYER
will need a stimulant when the weather gets cold and everything is covered with snow. The very best stimulant known for egg production is

Pioneer Clover Meal
It is finely ground clover hay which has been carefully cured so as to preserve its natural green color and aroma. It is ground by our special made machinery and packed in new sacks. Prices, 50 lbs. \$1.00; 100 lbs. \$2.00; 5 lbs. 25c. Send for FREE sample book; endorsed by all leading poultry editors.

THE BENNETT & MILLETT COMPANY,
Box II, Gouverneur, N. Y.

Hens that Pay are hens that Lay, Bassler's strains are built that way.

Barred Plymouth Rock, Buff and White Leghorn

Cockerels for sale. Improve the laying qualities of your fowls by the introduction of new blood from these choice strains. Price \$1.00 to \$3.00. Address, "Wayside Home" Poultry Yards, W. E. Bassler, Proprietor, Middleburg, N. Y.

While it may be plain that poultry pays better than anything else on the farm, in proportion to capital invested, yet the beginner should be careful, says P. H. Jacobs. No inexperienced person can launch off into success. He must learn, and to do so he must begin at the bottom.

Texas Farm and Ranch says a cock that has vigor, vim and aggressiveness, full of life and proud as a peacock, is worth more in a breeding pen than a shipping coop full of meek, submissive fellows that even the hens pay no regard to, and peck when they get in the way.

A natural fondness for domestic animals—especially for poultry; a moderate investment in the best grades of fowls, according to climate; an exercise of patient and painstaking care of the flock; a rational advertising of the stock for sale in due season, are the bases of success in the poultry business, says *American Poultry Journal*.

Fancy Fowls says it is possible that a beginner may have fair success the first year, but as a rule such is not generally the case. The only safe mode is to begin with a few, expect no profit the first year, and but little the next, devoting the time to learning without incurring much risk, and success will come later.

The Maine Farmer says the poultry business cannot be overdone. There is a market for all the poultry of the right kind that can possibly be raised. The statement is made not as a startling bit of newly discovered truth—called out by an anxious inquirer, who fears that he simply may flood the earth with chickens if he starts in the work.

[Continued on page 111.]

WHITE WYANDOTTES, ONLY.

Entire time given to breeding one variety.
13 FERTILE BROWN EGGS, \$2.00,
from vigorous, prolific birds above standard weight.

Pullets \$3.00, no less.

A few Cockerels at \$3.00—Beauties.

We will try to please.

HOMESTEAD POULTRY FARM, Hopkinton, Mass.

**Three
For
\$1.10**

We will send

**A Few Hens
Farm-Poultry
and**

American Poultry Journal,

three papers for one year for \$1.10. Regular price of American Poultry Journal, 50c. Farm Poultry \$1.00, A Few Hens, 25c. You save 65c. by sending your subscription for all three at one time. Send all orders to

**A Few
Hens,
Boston,
Mass.
U. S. A.**



A FEW HENS.

EDITED BY

MICHAEL K. BOYER,

Hammonton, N. J.

Published Once a Month.

Sample Copy Free.

Price, Monthly, Three Cents.

By the Year, Twenty-Five Cents.

Send all orders to

I. S. JOHNSON & CO., Boston, Mass.,
PUBLISHERS.

ADVERTISING RATE:

The rate per agate line is 15 cents each insertion; or 10 cents per line if order is for six months or more. About seven ordinary words make one line. There is fourteen lines in each inch space, single column.

Entered at the Post-Office at Boston, Mass., as second-class matter, by I. S. Johnson & Co., Publishers, 22 Custom House St., Boston, Mass.

EDITORIAL.

The 20th On page 88, of December Century. 15th A FEW HENS, an editorial begins: "Bid goodbye to 1899, as you welcome the Twentieth Century. The Eighteenth Century—filled with all its trials and triumphs—passes out of existence this month, and we are called upon to face a new era."

In reply to this we have received several letters, of which the following are samples:

Warren G. Wilson, Beverly, Ohio, writes:

"A FEW HENS is the poultry paper, and I sincerely hope I will receive at least a dozen more copies before the Twentieth Century opens. Are you not a little mixed as to the centuries in your editorial of December 15th? What has become of the Nineteenth Century? Is it locked in a patent trap nest box? Please let your think-box incubate normally, and see if you do not hatch out the correct idea that January 1st, 1901, is the beginning of the Twentieth Century; also that the Eighteenth Century ended December 31st, 1800."

By way of explanation, it was a typographical error in saying Eighteenth Century; it should have been "Nineteenth."

Geo. A. Cottrell, Copenhagen, N. Y., writes:

"I was looking over my last A FEW HENS, and read the editorial in which you say, 'Welcome the Twentieth Century.' Now I believe you are one year ahead in your welcoming. The Nineteenth Century ends with the year 1900, and the Twentieth begins with 1901. I believe you made a miss-hit in the year business, if you do not in the hen business. You are not too years old until after your tooth birthday, and a birthday comes after living a year, not before."

Our correspondents are right—we are wrong. There is a consolation, however, in knowing that "there are others" who have made the same mistake, for the controversy seems general all over the United States.

Twenty Last April we had a big rush Pages. of advertising, and had to make that issue 20 pages to get in all the advertisements received

and still keep up the usual amount of reading matter. Our business this year has increased so wonderfully that we must begin the 20-page editions with this number.

What does this show? It proves that just what we have been saying right along is so, that A FEW HENS is a valuable advertising medium, and that good business can be created by buying space in its columns. Note the fact that all the big advertisers of last year are with us again. Some of them staid with us right through the year. These men are business men, and they do not spend money for nothing. They have been getting big returns from advertising in A FEW HENS, and that is the only reason why they continue.

Now it is not only the big advertisers that have profited through our paper. We are constantly receiving testimonials from buyers of very small space. For example, here is Mrs. Geo. E. Monroe, Dryden, N. Y., breeder of single comb Black Minorcas. Some time ago she had a few lines advertisement in our paper, and now she sends a larger and longer contract, and with it comes this short but to the point testimonial:

"I have had excellent results from the small advertisement in your paper."

That's a business testimonial; a recommendation complete in itself—*multum in parvo*. There is as much value in it as could be contained in a whole page of glory. Are you willing to follow suit? Are you willing to give A FEW HENS a trial? There is no reason why you should not do as well as Mrs. Monroe.

They all S. M. Hanby, Birmingham, Like it. Ala.: "Allow me to say that I think you are furnishing your readers a very interesting and valuable paper, containing much practical information, obtained in a way that makes it convincing. I wish you abundant success."

Clarence N. Deur, York, Pa.: "The old saying is, 'When you see a good thing shove it along,' and that's just the way I feel after reading A FEW HENS, and I wish everybody had it. Therefore I will do you the favor you ask in your last issue by sending the names of my friends that keep poultry, and I assure you I take great pleasure in doing so."

E. W. Van Fleet, Galena, Ohio: "Your paper is good, clean and condensed, and well worth its price."

R. A. Baker, Cincinnati, Ohio: "We find A FEW HENS to be the hottest, most practical, and containing more facts in less words than any other paper in circulation."

E. A. Turner, New Bedford, Mass.: "I consider A FEW HENS the paper of hen papers, for the simple reason that it has everything boiled down so you can get all the nourishment without eating a large meal, and simply understand it."

Chas. Hines, Erie, Pa.: "Your paper is certainly the best utility paper published."

Collingwood Gordon, Salem, Va.: "I have been an admirer of A FEW HENS ever since its appearance, and think its editor is on the right track to success,"

J. A. Hacker, Turkey City, Pa.: "I threw your paper aside some years ago when it was recommended to me by several different friends as a good little paper, thinking it too small (seeing it had the title A FEW HENS), and you know I wanted to raise a good many. I thought a paper like _____ would suit better. But when I recently received a sample of A FEW HENS I found I was mistaken. I read and re-read one night the whole paper through and nearly spoiled my eyesight, for they are weak."

David Love, East Pittsburgh, Pa.: "I have been taking your paper for two years, and too much cannot be said in its favor. I regard it the best of all the papers I get—very complete and right to the point."

Loren Waughel, Cuba, Ills.: "Your grand and practical gem of the poultry papers is constantly on my desk."

Utility The impression seems to be Stock. general that "utility stock" is nothing more or less than scrub stock, and way beneath the birds sent to exhibitions. Nothing could be farther away from facts. The aim of the utility breeder is to have his stock excel in egg production, and to be superior in carcass. All matings are made with this aim in view. Having obtained that, the utility man directs his attention to securing all the trade marks and characteristics of the breed in hand. The result is that they not only make as good a showing as the average "Standard-bred or show bred bird," but combine remarkable egg and carcass traits.

Now these utility fowls often surprise the breeders of show stock, and here is a case in point.

William F. Stroud, Merchantville, N. J., is a breeder of utility White Wyandottes, and here is a letter just received from him:

"It may interest you to know that I took one of my White Wyandotte cockerels right from the farm and entered him in the Philadelphia show, alongside of the so-called 'show stock.' I did this without penning him up before, and did nothing to him at all but wash his feathers the night before I sent him to the show room. He tied for 5th place in a class of 24 very good birds.

"The judge, C. F. A. Smith, told me he had the best head, comb and eye of any male Wyandotte in the show, and had he known all about the bird he could not have told the truth better when he called him 'a little rangy,' for, as I have said above, he came direct from free range on the farm, and has not had time to fill out yet.

"He was hatched the latter part of April. I also won first on Wyandotte eggs (any variety) and second on 'brown' eggs (any pure breed) all from my Whites, and only had 26 eggs, and sent 24 of them to the show, so could not select them as I desired. They were therefore a better sample than what one usually sees at such places.

"What do you think of this for stock which has always been bred for brown eggs, greatest number of them, yellow skin and yellow legs, nicely shaped bodies—in fact, all practical qualities? Of course, I have not lost sight of Stand.

ard points in selecting my breeders, but the laying and meat qualities must be there whether some minor Standard points are or not. My stock is particularly free from black stubs or feathers. I found not over half a dozen out of about 300, with any sign of a discolored feather.

"I have sold about all of the poorest cockerels, and still have 20 or more nice fellows to dispose of at \$3 to \$5 each. Don't you think a bird from this kind of stock is cheaper, at these prices, than those from stock which has no particular standing, at \$2 or less?

"I take just as much pleasure as ever in reading your instructive and interesting paper, and I think a word or two on this subject will benefit both advertiser and buyer."

**
Book *The New Egg Farm* is a Review. book devoted to poultry keeping for profit by 20th century methods, by H. H. Stoddard, for 20 years editor of *Poultry World*; 12 mo, 331 pp, 140 original illustrations, cloth. Orange Judd Company, New York. Price, postpaid, \$1.00.

A practical, reliable manual upon producing eggs and poultry for market as a profitable business enterprise, either by itself or connected with other branches of agriculture. The author has conducted great poultry farms both east and west and is familiar with conditions in all parts of the country. He compares the best locations for the business. Tells how to build the houses for the layers, breeders, sitters or chicks, adapted to the colony system, the yard system and other methods. How to feed and manage. How to breed and select. Choice of breeds and crosses. Management for mild or severe climates. How to feed fowls and keep them at exercise without hard work. How to manage hundreds of sitters with little labor, how to raise brooder chicks and keep them alive and growing. Essentials of duck raising, and how to insure growth and fertility. Various styles of incubators and brooders are described, and their merits compared. Directions for an incubator cellar. Best method of heating and ventilating brooders. This is an entirely new work containing the author's ripest experience. The remarkable labor-saving devices alone render it an epoch-making book.

**
The Popular Orpington, by Geo. Bradshaw. Published by Department of Agriculture, Sydney, New South Wales.

This book contains 75 large pages devoted to a brief history of poultry, excellences of the old breeds, deterioration of the old breeds, poultry shows, fancy points vs. utility, Mr. Comyns' opinions, fancy fowls in America, fancy fowls in England, justification for new breeds, originator of the Orpington, Orpingtons in England, English opinions of Orpingtons, Black Orpingtons, White Orpingtons, Buff Orpingtons, opposition to the Buffs, Diamond Jubilee Orpingtons, an American editor at W. Cook's, an English journalist at Mr. Cook's, Orpingtons in America, Orpingtons in Australia, N. S. W. opinions and experiences, general qualities of Orp-

tons, Orpingtons for eggs, Orpingtons for the local and export markets, judging Orpingtons.

It is very plain that the idea in originating the Orpington was to put upon the English market a breed that could compare with our American Plymouth Rocks and Wyandottes. We believe the attempt has been successful, for we are told in Mr. Bradshaw's manual that they are early layers, plentiful layers, and good winter layers, and that they possess all the points necessary in fine table poultry. England has been paying entirely too much attention to fancy points, and not enough to utility qualities—and the Orpingtons come in to fill that long felt want.

Profitable Poultry Breeding for the Local and English Markets, by Geo. Bradshaw. Published by the Board of Exports, Sydney, New South Wales.

This is a 50-page book devoted to the utility part of poultry raising, and is replete with valuable matter. Mr. Bradshaw gives a very valuable argument in favor of the practical side. He classifies the general-purpose fowls in Langshans, Orpingtons, Plymouth Rocks and Wyandottes. Table poultry—Game, Colonial Game, Dorkings and Houdans. Mr. Bradshaw is an entertaining writer, and seems to fill each line with useful information.

How to Make Money with Poultry and Incubators. 192 large pages. Pub-

lished by the Cyphers Incubator Co., Wayland, N. Y. Price 15 cents.

The main object of this work is to show the merits of the Cyphers incubators and brooders, and this it does in a very complete manner. The remainder of the book contains the following practical articles: "Corn superior to wheat for poultry," by Wm. P. Brooks, Professor of Agriculture; Elmwood Cattle and Duck Farm, Puritan Poultry Farms; "Profitable Broiler Raising," by George H. Pollard; "Winter Chickens or Roasters," by Mr. Pollard; 9,200 ducks on less than four acres of land; "Introduction of incubators on the farm," by Maj. E. O. Roessle; Bellevue Poultry

INCUBATORS
The Cyphers.
One Style Only,
OUR BEST



Warranted to last 10 years without repairs and to out-hatch during three trials any other incubator—bar none; this or your money back.

BUILT FOR BUSINESS—SOLD ON HONOR. 16-page illustrated circular—price list FREE. Poultry Manual and Catalogue No. Bk 29 (160-pages, 8x11 in.) entitled, "How to Make Money with Poultry and Incubators" sent postpaid for 15c. in stamps—worth dollars. Address nearest office.

CYPHERS INCUBATOR CO.,
BOSTON, MASS. WAYLAND, N.Y. CHICAGO, ILL.

M. M. S. POULTRY FENCE

Has more good qualities than all others combined—cabled selvage and a cable every foot in height of fence Requires fewer posts and No Top or Bottom Rail—

PLEASING—SERVICABLE—PRACTICAL—ECONOMICAL—SATISFACTORY.

Saves 50 per cent. in cost of completed fence.

NOTE—Even if netting be wanted, the complete fence will cost more than where M. M. S. POULTRY FENCING is used at regular price. Deduct price of netting from Estimate No. 2, and see.

We also make Hog, Field and Lawn Fencing.

ESTIMATE No. 1.

60 rods 4-foot M. M. S. Poultry Fence made of	
No. 19 galvanized steel wire, @ 65c per rod	\$ 39.00
61 posts, @ 20 cents	12.20
Setting posts, 5 cents each	3.05
No Top or Bottom Rail Required.	
No Labor Putting Rail on Posts Required.	
No Nails to Attach Rails Required.	
5 lbs. staples, @ 7 cents	.35
4 hours labor stretching up fence, @ 25 cents	1.00
Total cost	\$ 55.60

Draw your own conclusions and then write us for circulars.

DE KALB FENCE CO., Box NN De Kalb, Ill.

SUCCESS WITH POULTRY

We are making a specialty of supplying poultry people with a full line of **Foods, Appliances, Etc.**, which will surely increase the product and profit of hen farming. We issue a large illustrated catalogue covering the entire subject and will be pleased to mail you a copy **Free** if you will ask for it. It treats among other things of **Bone Cutters, Incubators, Crushed Oyster Shells, Grit, Bone, Meat Meals, Beef Scraps, Condition Powders, Disinfectants, Lice Killers, Feeding Troughs, Drinking Fountains, Poultry Netting, Etc.**

An article of special merit is our

CUT CLOVER HAY

all ready for use. When scalped it makes the ideal green food for the flock in winter. Put up in 100 lb. Sacks at \$1.75 per Sack.

Don't Forget the Catalogue.

HARVEY SEED CO., 35 ELLICOTT STREET, BUFFALO, N. Y.

F. B. W.

Farm, Poultry Farm of J. E. Stocking & Co.; "Poultry for profit on one acre," by Michael K. Boyer; Seely & Son's Duck Farm; "Pullets vs. hens as profitable layers," by James Dryden; Great Duck Ranch of Wm. H. Truslow; "What the colleges are doing for poultry," by A. A. Brigham, Ph. D.; Maplewood Poultry Farm; "Private trade in poultry and eggs," by John H. Robinson; The Atlantic Duck and Broiler Farm; "Market poultry—best breeds chickens, ducks, turkeys, geese," by Mr. Pollard; Chas. A. Stauffer's Great Duck Ranch; "The demand for fresh eggs and how to meet it," by A. F. Hunter; Roselawn Poultry Farm; "Growing Pekin ducks for market," by Mr. Pollard; West Dallas Poultry Farm; "Fattening poultry—a new American art," by Mr. Hunter; "Progress of poultry in the South," by Geo. O. Brown; Meadow Brook Poultry Farm; America's greatest combination poultry plant; "Woman's work with poultry—what she can do," by Myra V. Norys; Plainfield Poultry Farm; Knapp Bros.' plant; Story of the Cyphers mammoth incubator; Briault Poultry Farm; Uplands Poultry Farm; "They were incubator-hatched chicks," Structure of a fowl's egg—development of the chick; Hatboro duck yards; Hudson River Poultry Farm, etc. The illustrations are half-tone, and the printing is of the highest order. There is much valuable information to be found in this year's Cypher's catalogue, and it is very cheap at 15 cents.

Is He a H. F. Simon, Cleveland, O., Fraud? writes as follows, under date

Dec. 8th: "I am greatly

interested in poultry, and am a reader of your splendid little paper A FEW HENS. I want to see all the frauds exposed wherever possible. A lady customer of mine reports that she answered an advertisement in the Ohio Farmer, and sent \$1.75 to Samuel H. Null, Merchantville, N. J., for a sitting of eggs. She received a receipt from him for the money, and although she has written 4 or 5 times, she has not received an answer, nor has she received the sitting of eggs. The order was sent last spring. I told the lady that I would write you and see whether there was such a man, or whether he was a fraud; you living in New Jersey would very likely know of him. If he is a poultry man he should return the money or go out of business. I have his receipt, and if he is an honorable man he will send me the money so that I can return it to my customer. There is too much of such business going on, and the sooner they are exposed in the poultry papers the better it will be for honest advertisers."

We never having heard of the party, wrote to a subscriber living in Merchantville, and received this reply:

"I return herewith the letter of complaint from H. F. Simon, of Cleveland, O., in regard to Samuel H. Null. This letter has brought to my notice, for the first time, such a man, and I immediately set about getting some information about him. I find that such a man lived on a farm near here, but within the last few months suddenly left these parts, supposedly at night, and his last

address is Bridgeport, Montgomery Co., Pa. I am told quite considerable money has found its way to him for different kinds of 'fancy stock,' and his sending receipts has protected him in certain sources, which otherwise could have protected the victims. I am very sorry for them, and certainly wish such 'dead beats' (or should I say 'alive skins') could be publicly branded. They make it so much harder for us poor mortals who try to give full value and even more."

A letter of inquiry to the postmaster at Bridgeport, brought the following reply:

"S. H. Null came to this place about one year ago to manage a farm for a Mr. Hathaway. He has since left Mr. Hathaway, and is now interested with a company that calls itself Bartholomew & Co. I have no knowledge of their standing, which is all the information I can give concerning him."

Over 10,000. The actual bona-fide subscription list of A FEW HENS is now past the 10,000 mark. When we stop to think that this number is made up of men who have the utility cause at heart, and are either engaged in raising poultry and eggs for market, or are about beginning, such a subscription list is of untold value to advertisers, and that is the secret of the liberal patronage we have in that direction.

In order to still further enlarge that list we will, during the next four

BUFF Rocks. Cirendar, C. B. Stevens, Newark, O.

FULL blooded Indian Runter Drakes for sale. Prices reasonable. E. A. Skillman, Rocky Hill, N. J.

COCKERELS for sale. S. C. W. Leg., S. C. Black Min., W. Wyan. Good stock. J. S. Buchan, Andover, Mass.

INCUBATOR EGGS, the fertile kind, from utility White Wyandotte stock. \$5.00 per 100. E. SCHAAF, Box 121, Woodbury, N. J.

W. ROCK Cockerels; also pen of W. C. B. Polish cheap, or trade for W. Rock pullets. E. Marquand, Mt. Vernon, N. Y.

MY Buff Rocks and Wyandottes have won many prizes. Old and young stock for sale. J. F. DAY, Shushan, N. Y.

GREAT Layers; large eggs. White Leghorns, Light Brahmas. Extra choice c'k's. Yearling hens. \$1, \$2, \$3. C. B. TRAVIS, Brighton, Mass.

BEEF SCRAPS, Ground Bone, Millet, Broken Rice, Buckwheat Feed, Grit, Shells, Charcoal, Sunflower Seed, Wheat, Barley, Rice, Meal and Buckwheat Feed. C. H. REEVE, 119 West St., New York.

1200 CHOICE POULTRY. All pigeons and the mammoth German hares cheap. All described in a natural colored descriptive 60 p. book, 10c. J. A. Bergey, Telford, Pa.

BARRED P. Rocks. White Wyandottes. Pedigreed from leading strains. I breed them for business, beauty and profit. Cockerels \$1.50, \$2.00, \$2.50 and \$3.00. Are sold cheap. E. W. HARRIS, North Acton, Mass.

BIG MAIL for Poultrymen. For 10 cts. we will insert your name in our poultry Directory, which will bring you hundreds of sample copies of poultry papers, incubator and poultry supply catalogues, etc., etc. **POULTRY DIRECTORY CO.**, Department 4, Box 763, Gosheu, Ind.

CURTAINS For Scratching Sheds. Waterproof sheathing. Made up any size, 3 cts. square foot. Not made up, 20 cts. square yard. C. N. TILLOTSON, 361 B'way, N. Y.

ROSE COMB LEGHORNS.

I have a few good breeding cockerels, Brown or White Leghorn, at \$2.00 each. A few one year-old White Leghorn hens, at \$1.00, to close them out. C. H. CLARK, Cobalt, Conn.

BLACK MINORCAS

Standard bred for 10 years for heavy layers. Good stock for sale at low prices. Eggs \$2.00 per sitting. Mrs. GEO. E. MONROE, Dryden, N. Y.

Profitable Wh. Wyandottes.

Eggs for hatching from good size, strong, vigorous, full-breasted, prolific laying birds, \$1.50 per 13 straight. J. T. ANGELL, Pine Plains, N. Y.

Utility White Wyandottes

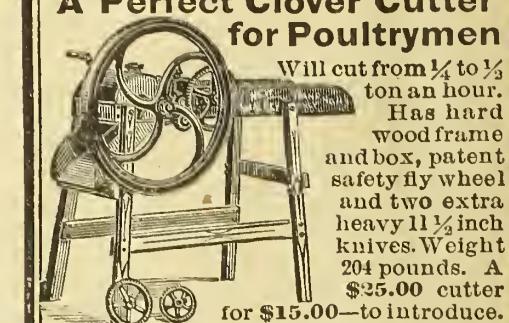
Eggs from special mating \$2.00 per 13.

ROBERT ATKINS,

26 West 15th Street, New York City.
Plant at Esopus, N. Y.

The New SMALLEY Hand Only CUTTER No. 11½

A Perfect Clover Cutter for Poultrymen

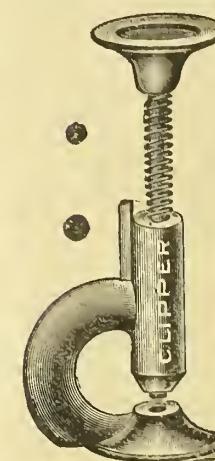


Will cut from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ ton an hour.
Has hard wood frame and box, patent safety fly wheel and two extra heavy $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch knives. Weight 204 pounds. A \$25.00 cutter for \$15.00—to introduce.

Freight prepaid if cash is sent with order. We will refund your money if, after 30 days' trial, the cutter doesn't give satisfaction. Any poultry feeder can save its cost twice over in a single season. No other machine like it.

Agency with First Order.
SMALLEY MFG. CO., Sole Mfrs.,
Manitowoc, Wis.

Poultry Marker.



With the Marker here illustrated, any form of mark may be adopted by puncturing the web between the toes. A complete record of chicks from different parties and strains can thus be kept, as well as to know your birds wherever they may be. It may save you money and a valuable bird. It costs, postpaid,

25 cts.

Send all orders to us.

**FIVE MARKERS
SENT FOR \$1.00.**

I. S. Johnson & Co., Boston, Mass.

American Trap Nest

Picks out the layers. Price of plans reduced to 50 cts.

S. C. WHITE Leghorns.

My strain has a record of 207 eggs per hen. Stock for sale low if bought now. Circulars. J. H. WOODHEAD, Box 226, Leicester, Mass.

ONE HUNDRED

choice breeding Cockerels, bred for business, not for show. W. Wyandottes, Barred P. Rocks, Buff P. Rocks, at \$1.50 to \$2.00 each. Wykoff's strain S. C. W. Leghorns at \$1.00 to \$1.50 each.

W. M. RAWSON, North New Salem, Mass.

months, get out much larger editions, which will be used mainly for sample copies in our canvass for new subscribers. We are now aiming for the 15,000 mark, and we want our readers' help.

Cold Storage Eggs. While we do not favor cold storage eggs, yet

we do not want our readers to think that we oppose their use by people who are so inclined. What we are opposed to is their sale under false colors.

The storage business has made wonderful strides the past few years. It is stated that Chicago has fully 30 per cent. of the cold storage eggs of the season's output. It is said that Chicago has stored in her immense warehouses 700,000 cases of eggs, or 168,000,000 eggs, which is estimated to have cost \$2,677,500. The insurance cost added, brings the average cost to about 14 cents per dozen, which is 2 cents more than last year's prices. New York last season handled over \$18,000,000 worth of eggs at an average price of 20 cents per dozen. It is reported that America last year exported over \$20,000,000 worth of eggs. The above figures show that the American hen is a very important factor in the wealth of the country.

Judge G. O. Brown says that with the advent of severe cold weather these cold storage eggs come to the markets masquerading as "strictly fresh eggs." The egg epicure will conclude the hens are laying eggs of poor quality, and his groceryman will perhaps tell him winter eggs always lack in quality. The women will have their tribulations in cake making, for cold storage eggs are miserable substitutes for genuine fresh ones.

Poultry raisers have in vain, so far, entered emphatic protests against the cold storage imposition—their being disposed of as strictly fresh. They claim that cold storage eggs should be labeled as such—that there should be some pure food laws governing such impositions. Cold storage men claim that their process is not injurious to the eggs. The fact remains, however, that women have serious complaints against cold storage eggs when they necessarily have to make use of them for culinary purposes. It would seem that the cold storage plan has something of a rival in "canned eggs." The New York *Produce Review* says:

"The sale of eggs for bakers' use is being considerably curtailed by the use of canned eggs from Minnesota. These are put up in cans when fresh, closely sealed and stored in freezers. By the process the yolks are separated from the white, and a great saving is said to be made by the using up of small sizes, cracks and other merchantable stock. Two or three of our largest bakers, who usually bought more than 100 cases per week, are now using the canned eggs in their manufactures, with satisfactory results."

Boracic Acid. Poultrymen cannot be too careful in handling poisonous articles. At the same time, editors should be careful in advocating the use of any known poison.

No wise man would either advise or administer a poisonous article to his hens; there are enough mild remedies for fowl sickness, and any fowl that would need heroic treatment would not be worth much after being "cured."

Rural New Yorker says a Kansas poultryman read in some agricultural paper that boracic acid would preserve chicken meat almost indefinitely. He rashly assumed that the acid should be mixed with the feed of the fowls, so he tried the experiment, with the result that 762 fowls out of a flock of 800 died within 24 hours. It is said that he sued the paper which published the advice to recover damages, but the court held that any man of ordinary intelligence should know better than to try to preserve the flesh of living fowls by administering chemicals to them. What must we think, however, of any paper which would advise the use of boracic acid as a preventative? We know that in many States its use in foods is legally prohibited; that it is deleterious, and that, when used in milk fed to infants, it is short of murderous. The fact is, we see too much plausible misinformation printed in the public press, and a person who does not possess varied and specific knowledge may easily be deceived by it.

Utility W. B. German. in *Poultry Points. Graphic*, in referring to the definition of the word Utility, says it means usefulness, worth, profit; and the word "utilize" means to make useful or profitable. According to the above definition, then, the utility breeds, or those that can be utilized, are those that have been so bred that they can be turned into profit.

This, says Mr. German, we do not always find in birds or flocks that are producing fine exhibition specimens, and that are bred for that purpose. The Standard is responsible for at least part of the mischief.

Then Mr. German, by way of example, takes up the White Plymouth Rocks. The Standard calls for a yellow beak, yellow legs and white plumage. This at first glance may seem all right, but is it? Do these qualities go hand in hand, or do they have a tendency to work against each other? Mr. German says that in his experience with White Plymouth Rocks, pure white specimens cannot be produced year after year without the yellow skin, beak and legs suffering, as will also the vitality of the flock, the young stock being weak and not growing as fast as they should, while the legs and beaks of birds a year or more old will become pale, and in some instances almost white. He finds that this is not his opinion alone, but that of other first-class breeders.

Mr. German concludes as follows: "The first thing any business man does is to take into consideration the wants of his prospective customers, and he

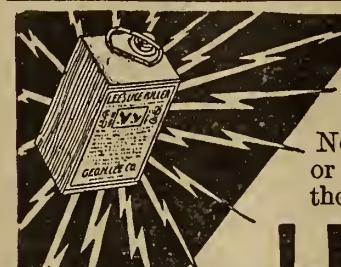
LOST.

There were several too late in writing us about the farm we had for sale last month. We sold it to the first man; he knew a good thing when he saw it. But we have other farms for sale; write us about them. Don't forget we live in the banner town in the state and are selling lots of fine

WHITE WYANDOTTES.

Let us price your wants.
S. N. FOLLANSBEE, Leominster, Mass.,
Proprietor Bonniebrae Poultry Farm.

WHITE WYANDOTTES. Standard points and utility combined. Stock for sale. Eggs in season. Young Belgian Hares \$3.00 per pair. CUMMAQUID POULTRY FARM, Box 123, Cummaquid, Mass.



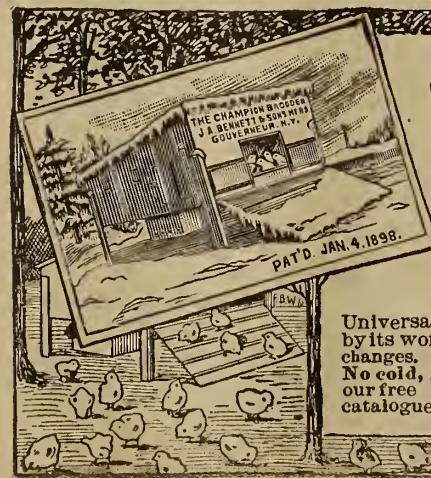
No Fussing with Hens.

No dipping or dusting, no trouble, no bother and yet no lice or vermin. All you have to do is paint the roosts, etc., and the thing is done. That is if you use

LEE'S LICE KILLER

It is "great stuff." It instantly kills every louse, every mite, every bug about the place. You can't have money-making hens if they are lousy. 99 per cent of all poultry troubles come from lice. You may call it roup or cholera or what not, but the probabilities are that it's nothing but lice. Get rid of 'em. Keep them away. **USE LEE'S LICE KILLER** does the work. Price, 75 cents per gallon can. Send to Omaha office for free sample, and 64-page book on vermin.

GEO. H. LEE CO., OMAHA, NEB. OR 68 MURRAY ST., NEW YORK.



Save Their Lives

Don't let the chicks die after you have gone to the trouble and expense of hatching them. They'll live and grow if you put them in the

\$5 CHAMPION BROODER.

Universally acknowledged to be the best brooder made. "Known by its work." An out-door brooder absolutely unaffected by weather changes. Perfect distribution of heat and ventilation. Double floor. No cold, no dampness. Don't buy a brooder until you have examined our free catalogue. J. A. Bennett & Sons, Box H, Gouverneur, N.Y.

will watch their interests, as from this must come success, and success or failure depends entirely upon how they succeed in pleasing the class of people who deal with them. Thus it is with the poultryman. He must study the wants and wishes of the buyers, and must strive to furnish what they want, or failure will be the result. For instance, a certain breed has been very popular in this section for a few years on account of being represented as the fowl for farmers. This breed has been bred almost to death for color at the expense of size and vitality. Well, what is the result? Already they are being discarded, and if the true lovers of this breed are not careful, it will get a setback that they will not easily overcome. Utility is coming to the front, and the wise breeder will take notice of the fact and breed accordingly, and it will not be many years until show qualities will be compelled to conform to utility, and not utility to show qualities."

Chicago Show. While A FEW HENS pays no attention to show reports, it is constantly on the lookout for notices of displays of dressed poultry and egg exhibitions. As we have always maintained, no poultry show is complete without the proper maintenance of a practical department, and there is lots of room for improvement along this line. We are pleased to note that the Chicago show, to be held in that city January 22 to 27, will make a determined effort to make the practical part a feature. They have divided up 25 classes, as follows:

- Class 1. Heaviest and best dressed turkey; old Tom.
- Class 2. Heaviest and best dressed turkey, young.
- Class 3. Heaviest and best dressed turkey, old and young, in feather.
- Class 4. Largest display of dressed turkeys.
- Class 5. Heaviest and best dressed capon under one year of age.
- Class 6. Heaviest and best dressed capon any age.
- Class 7. Heaviest and best dressed goose or gander any age.
- Class 8. Best dressed and most saleable-sized goose or gander.
- Class 9. Largest and best display of dressed geese.
- Class 10. Best chicken, any breed, dressed.
- Class 11. Best dressed fowl, any kind.
- Class 12. Best yellow-meated chicken.
- Class 13. Best white-meated chicken.
- Class 14. Best pair broilers.
- Class 15. Heaviest and best dressed pair ducks, any breed.
- Class 16. Largest and best dressed display of dressed ducks.
- Class 17. Best six largest and fattest dressed squabs.
- Class 18. Largest display of dressed squabs.
- Class 19. Best one dozen brown eggs.
- Class 20. Best one dozen white eggs.
- Class 21. Heaviest dozen hens' eggs.
- Class 22. Best dozen duck eggs.
- Class 23. Heaviest and best dozen geese eggs.

- Class 24. Smallest and best dozen bantam eggs.
- Class 25. Best display of eggs, any variety or kind.

Wonderful The *Poultry World* for Egg. 1876, says: "A domestic fowl's egg is a curious thing. If we examine this conformation critically to learn in detail about its origin, its growth, its mature formation, and what results from it subsequently when set upon and hatched, no topic in nature is more interesting; no product of animal life is more marvelous to the student of nature, from its inception to the moment of the birth of the bird it produces. This secret process of incubation is very interesting, and few have more than a superficial idea of this operation, which we will briefly explain:

"At the close of third day after the hen is set upon the freshly impregnated eggs, the linaments of the chick's body faintly appear. The heart begins to beat the fourth day. At the end of the fifth day the wings and brain-globules show. The liver is seen on the sixth day, when the bill appears also. On the tenth day the feathers begin to show, and on the eleventh the eyes appear. On the fourteenth the stomach and lungs are perfected. On the fifteenth or sixteenth day the bill opens often. At the eighteenth day it 'peeps,' and, growing rapidly stronger, breaks from its shell on the twenty-first day."

WHITE WYANDOTTES—100 strong, vigorous cockerels for sale. Wh. Indian Games, Lt. Brahma Bantams, Clear Grit, Meat Meal, Oyster Shells. I have the best of the above goods, and can please you. Send for circular and price-list.

D. LINCOLN ORR, Box 9, Orr's Mills, N. Y.

THE F. P. C. CHICK MANNA

TEN DAYS' FOOD
For Little
Chicks when
first Hatched.
Tested, proven
productive of
QUICK, STRONG,
HEALTHY GROWTH

Highly Prized by POULTRY RAISERS.
Send for Descriptive Price List of the
F. P. C. PREPARATIONS for POULTRY, HORSES, CATTLE, ETC.
MANUFACTURED ONLY BY
F. P. CASSEL, Lansdale, Pa.

Tilton's Power Job Print,

NORTHWOOD RIDGE, N. H.
Envelopes, Packet Heads, Cards, 50 cts. per 100, postpaid. Tags 40 cts. per 100. Send stamp for samples and prices of other work. Satisfaction guaranteed.

How astonishing, exclaims a noted English writer, that all the parts of an animal's body should be concealed within this egg, and require nothing but heat to unfold and quicken them into life—that the whole formation of the chick should be so constant and regular that exactly at the same hour all these changes will occur, in the generality of eggs, and that the moment it is hatched, it is heavier than the egg was before.

Marvelous combination, indeed! says Geo. P. Burnham, in his book "Secrets in Fowl Feeding." Instructive lessons may be gathered from this simple operation, by him who watches the process of these manifold but always uniform changes and results. Yet there are numerous other wonders "hidden from our knowledge in this connection, of which, from our limited faculties, we must remain in ignorance."

There are indeed many intricacies, or secretly-wrought operations in the form-

MAC'S thoroughbred Barred Rocks. Eggs \$2.00 per sitting. MacEnerney, Hasbrouck Heights, N. J.

EGGS 75 to 90 per cent. fertile. White Wyandottes exclusively. Sat. guaranteed. 15, \$1.50; 100, \$5. W. E. Shoemaker, Laceyville, Pa.

POULTRY CUTS at CUT PRICES. CATALOGUE FREE.

Harper Eng. Co., Columbus, O.

FOR SALE.—29 acres of land, containing about 2,500 pear, 550 peach, 400 plum, and 500 apple trees. Enclosed with fully 1 1/2 miles hedge fencing. Excellent for poultry culture, being high, dry, sandy soil. Located one-third mile from railroad station, in the heart of the town of Hammonton. Fully two-thirds of a mile of the land fronts on public streets. Price, \$4,000. Terms to suit purchaser. Address, J. C. JOHNSON, Hammonton, N. J.



Maplewood Farm Poultry

Woodstock Vt.
Young Breeding Stock now on sale. Highest quality. White Wyandottes, Golden Wyandottes and Barred Plymouth Rocks, males, \$3.00 to \$5.00. Females, \$2.00 to \$3.00. Eggs of best strains for hatching, \$2.00 per sitting. Incubator eggs, \$6 per 100. Send orders now for present or future delivery.

The Fanciers' Review

and Fruit Grower.

A monthly journal for the poultry keeper and fruit grower; newsy, original and up-to-date.

Subscription Price 50 Cents per year.
Three copies for 10 cents; sample copies free.
Send for special clubbing rates.

JOB PRINTING OF ALL KINDS.

**THE FANCIERS' REVIEW
and FRUIT GROWER,
CHATHAM, N. Y.**

Mr. Boyer says Kulp

and his stock is all right. The finest of layers and feathers. Can prove it. Barred and White Rocks (Thompson & Bradley), White Wyandottes (Duston), S. and Rose Comb Brown Leghorns (Kulp's), second to none. White Leghorns, Bl. Minorcas, Bl. Langshans, Big Pekin Ducks, Belgian Hares. Circular. W. W. KULP, Box 70, Pottstown, Pa.

ation of the egg, says Mr. Burnham, which result in giving us the curious combination which contains the vital principal of an animated being. Yet very little is known, through actual, thorough experiment, of the details of the workings of this natural construction, so wonderful in its origin as well as through all its changes, from the infinitesimal vesicle forming at first in the ovary, down to the ejection of the perfect hard-shelled egg laid by the healthy hen, as may be seen through examining the following facts:

The ovary (or egg sac) in the fowl, lies just in front of the left kidney. The passage from it, outward, is called the oviduct. The ovary contains the little globular germs of the eggs that are naturally formed with the early growth of the birds, and are very numerous, 600 or 700 (of various diminutive sizes) having been counted in young hens less than a year old. And this gave rise to the theory that *all* the eggs a domestic fowl would ever lay in her life are formed at one time, in the first instance, in this embryo state.

These globules slowly increase in proportions, those lying nearest to the mouth of the oviduct enlarging first and passing out one by one into the passage, as they approach maturity. When the first or outer vesicle has become near the natural size of the common yolk, it is caught in the funnel-shaped end of egg passage; and each yolk, as it goes slowly down through this inflexible tube, has formed about it the albumen or "white" of the egg. This substance contains fine strong threads in its composition, which hold the yolk in its place in the future shell. The membrane that lines the shell is then formed, and finally the outer hard shell. The "white" of the egg is first formed near the mouth of the oviduct; the membranes half way down; the hard shell last, at the lower end of this egg passage.

Kill a vigorous laying fowl any day when a year old, and carefully examine the ovary and oviduct. You will find one perfectly formed hard-shelled egg ready to be laid, frequently; then a full-sized "soft-shelled" egg above it; then a smaller, membranous-covered yolk above that; then a yolk two-thirds size, then half-size, then quarter-size, and so on (from the upper portion of the egg-tube into and through the oviduct), still smaller embryo eggs or yolks; from those of the dimensions of a pea to those of finest mustard seeds or less, in bulk. Count all you can see, if you are curious, then apply the microscope and you may find five, six, seven hundred of these tiny vesicles of various sizes, each of which would have formed a perfect hard-shelled egg in time. These eggs are impregnated in the yolk after they enter the egg passage, undoubtedly, and before the outer membranous secretion (or white) is formed. How many are impregnated or rendered fertile at one time, is a question not yet decided, but the best authorities say very few—Mr. Felch claims ten.

Barred Plymouth Rock cockerels, \$2.00; pullets, \$1.00. E. R. VAN WAGNER, Crum Elbow, N. Y.

FOR SALE. 5-acre poultry farm, 50 miles from New York. Inquire CHAS. K. NELSON, Hammonton, N. J.

NOTES IN PASSING—Continued.

P. H. Jacobs says poultry as a business and poultry as a pleasure are different pursuits. In the first place there is labor that must be performed or paid for, and in the second, the labor is not even considered. Begin at the bottom and gradually extend your operations. By so doing you will learn as you enlarge and gradually reach a position from which success will be assured.

Mrs. S. Rider, Maryland, N. Y., writes: "Tell A FEW HENS' readers that if their hen roosts are so located that the hens are more or less exposed, put up a partition all around the roosts with a door in front, and shut the door on very cold nights. This will prevent frosted combs. It will be less trouble to make if the roosts are in one end or corner of the building. The fowls' bodies will warm up the space they occupy."

J. E. Taylor, in *Farm and Home*, says: "I have learned that a good flock of hens can and does turn in a larger profit for capital invested than any stock on the farm. In fact, I claim the hen is the only live stock on the farm you can buy, feed to grow to maturity, and then dispose of your produce for enough to pay for the feed. All other stock are scavengers; the hen is business. When I say hen, I mean poultry in general."

I. S. Brainard, Webster Groves, Mo., writes A FEW HENS: "I will have to give up the business of keeping poultry. I am so overrun with sparrows that I do not find it profitable keeping hens, as the former eat up too much feed. From 50 to 100 of them stay in the hen house day and night. I have found but one way to get rid of the pests, and that is to starve them out by feeding corn only to the hens, but that is not practicable for a long time, so I propose to starve them out by shutting down altogether."

G. O. Brown says it is a sad commentary on a man's humane ideas to compel a flock of poultry to roost for a week in an odor-laden atmosphere of droppings accumulating during the period. You may strew ashes, road dust, land plaster or what not over the bed of

PRAIRIE State Incubator for sale. 100 capacity. Box 181, Hop Bottom, Pa.

WHITE HOLLANDS. May, '99-hatch birds for breeding. C. Adeli Kayner & Co., Lockport, N. Y.

EGGS for hatching after Feb. 1. Light Brahmas, W. P. Rocks, Pekin Ducks. 20 eggs for \$1.00. Woodward M. Poffenberger, Bakersville, Wash. Co., Md.

FOR SALE. Hot water 300-egg capacity incubator, cheap. Apply E. H. C., care M. K. BOYER, Hammonton, N. J.

BLACK MINORCAS. Standard bred for 10 years for heavy layers. Stock for sale. Eggs \$2 per 13. A limited number for \$5 per 13. Mrs. Geo. E. Monroe, Dryden, N. Y.

BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS. Bred for eggs and early maturing broilers. Eggs two dollars per 13. Two extra eggs for saying where you saw this advertisement. Correspondence cheerfully answered. Libbie Durfee, Box 16, Sylvania, O.

TEETH for Hens

Best Grit in market doth not go to dust; it's all Grit. Every surface cuts and grinds to the end and never wears round.

CIRCULAR FREE. LIBERAL DISCOUNT TO THE TRADE.

KEYSTONE GRANITE GRIT WORKS, Perkiomenville, Pa., U. S. A.

filth each morning, but the odor will grow stronger and stronger. Then when the weekly cleaning takes place it is not necessary to go inside the house to know what is going on; the fact is smellable some distance off. This odor finds its way into every crack and crevice in the house.

Willie Mitts, Raymond, Ills., writes A FEW HENS that a good way to catch hawks is to place a steel trap on a large sized gate post if there is one near the hen yard. Another plan is as follows: When a hawk catches a chicken and kills it, get a steel trap and set it where the fowl is left by the hawk, first removing the dead bird, and then covering the trap over with feathers of the chicken. Be sure to fasten the trap so the hawk cannot fly off with it. Cover the chain with loose dirt, so as to hide the entire outfit.

WHITE Wyandottes

GOLDEN EGG STRAIN.

So many have wanted this strain that all surplus pullets and hens are sold, without a complaint from a customer. The supply of Golden Egg strain is limited. A few cockerels, some good ones, still left. Selected incubator eggs at \$6.00 a hundred.

WM. E. SARGENT, Lancaster, Mass.



Empire State Brooders, complete, \$5.00; Summer Queen Brooder Stoves, .90 and \$1; Reliance Brooder Stoves, .65, 1 1-2 in.; Compressed Wicks, for Stoves, per doz., .25; Tested Brooder and Incubator Thermometers, .30 and .40; Crushed Oyster Shells, 500 lbs., in sacks, \$2.50; Oyster Shells by ton or car load to trade, very low. Lice Killing Paint, 1 lb. makes gallon, per lb., .25; Lambert's "Death to Lice," .10, .25, .50, \$1. Best makes Oil Stoves at Half Price. Illustrated Circular 2 cts. Write us.

EMPIRE STATE BROODER CO., Hall's Corners, N. Y.

A few selected, nicely Barred, good size

Barred Rock Cockerels

bred from male from A. C. Hawkins, \$2.00. Satisfaction guaranteed. Orders booked for eggs. Write. C. C. SHORB, McDaniel, Md.

LAYING HENS

are what you need, if you mean business. In order to tell which hens lay, you

NEED A

CUCKOO Trap Nest

Its claims are not guff; it wins over all competitors in every contest. Write for circular to THE DUNLAP SUPPLY CO., Yardley, Pa.

One Business.
One Breed.

Wh. Wyandottes.

STOCK FOR SALE.

Buttonwood Farm, Box 407, Taunton, Mass.

Keystone Granite Grit:

2000 pounds, 20 bags,	\$6.00
1000 pounds, 10 bags,	3.25
500 pounds, 5 bags,	1.75
100 pounds, trial sample,	25c.

Keystone Granite Dust, \$4 per ton.

Questions Briefly Answered.

Letters of Inquiry Received Too Late to be Classified.

J. N. F.: As long as there is not too much looseness of the bowels, the hens can have all the cabbage they will eat.

We feed about one-tenth amount of Bowker's Animal Meal in the mash—that is, to 10 quarts of ground grain we add one quart of the meat meal.

We always feed green bone as a separate meal, alone.

The Standard weight of Wyandottes are, cock, 8 1-2 pounds; cockerel, 7 1-2 pounds; hen, 6 1-2 pounds; pullet, 5 1-2 pounds.

Culls in any breed very often are the best layers.

W. M. K.: Equal parts, by measure, of oats, cornmeal, bran and middlings, and one-tenth the amount of boiled blood (or sufficient to mix the grain in a crumbly mess) is an excellent egg food.

J. J. S.: If you buy breeding stock of Hawkins, Felch, or any breeder, you have a perfect right to advertise their strains.

Sulphur is a blood purifier, but must not be fed during rainy or threatening weather. A teaspoonful to 10 hens twice a week would be about right.

Nothing is gained by trimming the bill of your cross-bill bird. There is danger of injury by bleeding. Better kill and eat the fowl.

C. E. S.: A cock is a year or more of age; a cockerel under one year. It is the same with hens and pullets.

In referring to marketing birds when two years old, it is meant just before their second molt. In reality they are about 30 months old.

R. M. S.: There is no objection to plastering the walls and ceiling of the hen house. In fact it is a good idea.

Mrs. J. W. L.: It makes very little difference whether you place small dishes of water in the bottom of your incubator, or suspend wet sponges, to supply moisture.

We never saw an incubator heated by hot water pipes.

Mrs. A. U. L.: If you keep your fowls scratching in hay or straw, they will not suffer from confinement to runs, and the eggs should be just as fertile.

E. W. G.: We cannot well give you the dimensions of a crate for shipping live broilers to market. Better write to your commission merchant. To ship a large number, there should be a partition in the center of the crate, so the stock would not pile all to one end and injure or kill part.

We do not believe there is a strain of Wyandottes in existence that will average 200 eggs per hen, per year.

C. E. J.: Bathe lump on the leg with hot water, and after dry, anoint with vaseline. Repeat daily for a week or more.

W. H.: For information regarding geese, see our department "Geese for Profit."

C. J. W.: About the only method we know of to prevent broken legs in the hen, is to keep her in proper con-

dition. This trouble happens to overfat hens.

L. A. C.: We believe in keeping both grit and oyster shell constantly before the hens.

Turnips, beets, potatoes, or any kind of roots can be cut up in an Evans root cutter. We feed the cut vegetables raw, placing them in troughs. We add Condition Powder twice a week to our morning mash.

We add charcoal to the mash twice a week. It aids digestion, and is an excellent tonic.

F. C.: Breakfast wheat and macaroni are relished by fowls.

Fisher's R. I. REDS

At three shows, 1899, I won more premiums than all of my competitors. A few cockerels for sale cheap.

A. J. FISHER, Milford, N. H.

TABER'S WYANDOTTES P. ROCKS

are bred on practical lines. Standard points and egg records combined. Young stock for sale.

MAPLE GROVE POULTRY YARDS,
S. A. TABER, Prop., Fillmore, N. Y.

2065 EGGS

From January 1st, '99, to December 1st.

The above record from eleven B. P. Rocks, entered in Farm Journal Experiment Club. Average per hen, 187 8-10 in eleven months. Vigor first-class. Set 285 eggs under hens; hatched 263. Eggs for hatching for sale, also a few fine cockerels. Above pen headed by a fine Hawkins cock. For particulars address Mrs. B. C. Cowles, Box 118, Plantsville, Ct.

FEED for EGGS

Bargain Collection Poultry Foods.

20 lbs. Crushed Oyster Shells, 10 lbs. Grit, 10 lbs. Animal Meal, 5 lbs. Granulated Bone, 5 lbs. Ground Brick, 1 Egg Record, good for one year, Lice Paint Formula, 64-page Practical Poultry Book, *The Poultry Industry*, 16 pages monthly, one year. This trial order, worth \$2.00, sent you by freight for \$1.00. Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded.

W. S. GALATIN & SON, York, Pa.

Money Making Quartette.

BRED FOR EGGS AND MEAT.

Eggs for Hatching at Bargain Prices.

Light Brahmans, } Heavy winter layers. Rich
colored brown egg. Grand
\$2 for 15; \$5 for 50. } table fowls.

White Wyandottes, } Bred for heavy laying and
attractive broiler car-
\$1.50 for 15; \$4 for 50. } casses.

White Ply. Rocks, } Large bodied, first-class
layers. King of the me-
\$1.50 for 15; \$4 for 50. } dium-sized roasters.

S. C. Wh. Leghorns, } Regular "egg machines,"
producing a fine white
egg. Bred for a continu-
ous egg flow."

We mate, feed and care for our fowls to secure strong fertility, heavy laying, healthy, vigorous stock and improved meat qualities. Orders for eggs booked now.

MICHAEL K. BOYER, Hammonton, N. J.

White Wyandottes,
Rhode Island Reds.

STOCK and EGGS. WRITE for PRICES.

HENRY B. SPENCER, Ayer, Mass.

20th Century
Wh. Wyandottes.

Heavy layers of dark brown eggs. Early hatched. Bred on practical lines in scratching shed houses. Have unlimited range. New blood every year. Also Forbes strain of

ROSE COMB WHITE LEGHORNS.

None better. Eggs, 13 for \$1.75; 26 for \$3.00; 39 for \$4.00. Incubator eggs, \$6.00 per 100. Address, H. HOLMES, Wethersfield, Conn.

People We Know.

Facts and News Gleaned Especially for A FEW HENS About People We Know.

To MAKE HENS LAY. The best breed of hens on earth can't make eggs unless you give them something to work with. Egg production depends very largely upon the food supply. The H-O Company's poultry food contains a large percentage of albumen, the principal constituent of eggs, so combined with other food constituents in just the right proportions to keep the fowls in that vigorous, healthy condition in which they just have to lay eggs. It is the only poultry food sold with a guaranteed analysis attached to each sack. You know exactly what you are buying. It contains 17 per cent. protein; 5 1-2 per cent. of oil. It promotes the growth of chicks and broilers; it increases the egg yield, especially in winter, nearly 100 per cent.; it makes pullets lay early and produces "fine feathers." It is fed as a morning mash and never fails to produce satisfactory results.

The H-O Company, Buffalo, N. Y., has offered to send to all readers mentioning this paper, a free sample of this food, with circulars and prices. We trust that our readers will avail themselves of this liberal offer. We know that hundreds of successful poultry keepers have pronounced it unexcelled as both an egg and a flesh maker. Get the free sample.

Our readers will observe from the advertisement of Johnson & Stokes, which appears upon another page of this issue, that these people are largely engaged in the manufacture and sale of poultry supplies. In fact their catalogue is one of the largest and most comprehensive devoted to this line, and embraces about everything that poultry people could wish. Among the host of things in this catalogue which stand out with special prominence are, perhaps—Vigor Prepared Meat—a carefully prepared and blended meat preparation, calculated to add great vigor and tone to the fowl system, and a great egg-producing food. Vigor Scratch Food, which possesses the excellent qualities of the above, but in a different form, being designed for distributing among the litter, and which in addition to its excellent food qualities, is a splendid exerciser. The Famous Cyphers Incubators, which need no commendation from us, having made such an envious reputation for themselves. Lee's and Lambert's Lice Killers, leaving a man to decide between a liquid and a powder, both being of most excellent quality. Clover Meal, that ideal Winter feed so much appreciated by fowls in the absence of green grass. Then there is that host of other appliances and poultry conveniences so necessary to success. But write Johnson & Stokes at 217-219 Market St., Philadelphia, Pa., for the catalogue, and read for yourself.

VALUABLE BOOKS

For Poultry Raisers,
In Combination with
SUBSCRIPTIONS.

We will send any ONE of the following 50c. books:

American Fancier's Poultry Book.

Farm-Poultry Doctor (Sanborn)

Pocket Money in Poultry (Norys).

Broilers for Profit (Boyer).

The Diseases of Poultry (Salmon)

Money in Squabs (Long).

With a year's Subscription to

FARM-POULTRY, semi-mo., \$1.00 } ALL

THE FEATHERS, monthly, .50 } FOUR

A FEW HENS, monthly, .25 } FOR

Total with Book, \$2.25 } \$1.35

EACH additional Book of above list, 25 cents more.

Send all orders and money to

I. S. JOHNSON & CO., Boston, Mass.

Our Market Report.

An Accurate Account of the Highest, Lowest and Average Prices for the Best Market Stock, Paid During the Month of December—Goods Not up to the Standard Received Proportionately Less.

NEW YORK.

Furnished A FEW HENS by Dulany & Branin, 41 Hewitt Avenue, New York City.

	Highest,	Lowest,	Av.,
Fresh eggs.....	27	25	26
Philada. Roasting Chickens, 16	16	16	
Broilers.....	22	19	20 1-2
Fowls.....	13	12	12 1-2
Ducks.....	14	12	13
Turkeys, spring, fauzy.....	17	14	15 1-2
Capons.....	22	18	20

PHILADELPHIA.

Furnished A FEW HENS by Philip Quigley, 303 South Front St., Philadelphia, Pa.

	Highest,	Lowest,	Av.,
Fresh Eggs.....	24	20	22
Hens, live.....	10	7 1-2	8 3-4
Heus, dressed.....	10	9 1-2	9 3-4
Roasting Chickens, live.....	10	7 1-2	8 3-4
Roasting Chickens, dressed.....	12	10	11
Old Roosters, live.....	7	6 1-2	6 3-4
Old Roosters, dressed.....	7	7	7
Geese, live.....	10	9	9 1-2
Geese, dressed.....	10	8	7
Ducks, live.....	10	9	9 2-3
Ducks, dressed.....	11	9	10
Turkeys, live.....	10	9	9 1-2
Turkeys, dressed.....	14	11	12 1-2

BOSTON.

Furnished A FEW HENS by Bennett, Rand & Co., 20 North Market St., Boston, Mass.

	Highest,	Lowest,	Av.,
Eggs, nearby and Cape.....	35	30	32 1-3
Eggs, Eastern.....	25	24	24 1-2
Eggs, Vt. and N. H.....	25	25	
Eggs, West'n, selected fresh.....	21	21	
Eggs, refrigerator.....	16	14	15
NORTHERN and EASTERN.			
Chickens, dressed.....	16	15	15 1-2
Chickens, live.....	10	9	9 1-2
Fowls, dressed.....	12	12	12
Fowls, live.....	10	9	9 1-2
Roosters, live.....	6	6	6
Broilers, nearby.....			
Ducks, dressed.....	12	12	12
Turkeys, young.....	16	15	15 1-2
Geese, dressed.....	12	12	12
WESTERN.			
Turkeys,.....	14	10	12 1-6
Turkeys, old toms.....	10	10	10
Broilers.....			
Fowls.....	10	9	9 1-2
Old cocks.....	7	6	6 5-8
Chickens, roasting.....	12	10	11
Geese,.....	10	10	10
Ducks.....	11	10	10 1-2

CHICAGO.

Furnished A FEW HENS by the Sprague Commission Co., 218 So. Water St., Chicago, Ill.

	Highest,	Lowest,	Av.,
Eggs, fresh.....	20	20	20
Chickens, hens, scalded.....	7	7	7
Chickens, hens, alive.....	7	6	6 1-2
Spring chickens, scalded.....	8	7	7 3-6
Spring chickens, live.....	7 1-2	6 1-2	7
Roosters, live.....	4 1-2	4 1-2	4 1-2
Roosters, dressed.....	5	5	5
Ducks, live, old.....	6 1-2	6 1-2	6 1-2
Geese, live, per dozen.....	\$5.50	\$5.00	\$5.25
Geese, dressed, old.....	8	8	8
Turkey hens, dressed:.....	10	9	9 5-6
Turkey hens, live.....	7 1-2	6	6 5-6
Turkey gobblers, dressed.....	8	8	8

HEAVY LAYING STOCK.

Eggs \$1.00 per 15: \$3.00 per 60.

Twenty leading varieties of Poultry, Ducks and Guineas. Stock for sale. Catalogue free.

JAMES M. SMITH & CO.

Perkiomenville, Montg. Co., Pa., U. S. A.

WHITE P. Rock cockerels from utility stock, \$1.50 to \$3. Columbia Poultry Yards, New Haven, Conn.

WHITE Wyandottes exclusively. Farm-raised, high-scoring, pure bred; from best laying strains. Eggs \$1 pr 15; low rates per 100. W. S. Orr, Glencoe, O.

S. C. BROWN LECHORNS

Average record of 189 eggs each a year. Strictly pure stock, bred several years for eggs only. Early layers, vigorous stock. \$1.50 per sitting.

BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS, 181 eggs each in a year. Honest brown egg strain. Begin laying in October if hatched reasonably early, say in April. \$1.50 per sitting.

F. CHRISTMAN, Sellersville, Pa.

FINE BRONZE TURKEYS AND IMPERIAL PEKIN DUCKS.

FOR SALE—Fine Bronze Turkeys from prize winning stock, both hens and gobblers taking premiums against strong competition, and Imperial Pekin Ducks, bred from high-priced birds purchased from Rankin, December, '98. Turkeys bred from Bronze gobbler weighing 37 pounds after last Feb'y blizzard, when 20 months old, being out in storm and not tattered; same Tom for sale 1 w, 30 months old, at \$6.00; also Fine Bronze Tom, 18 months old, \$4.50; young gobblers, \$4.00 each; hens, \$3.00 each; hen and gobbler, \$6.50; trio, \$8.50. Imperial Pekin Ducks, \$5.00 per half dozen. Address Capt. HEDGE THOMPSON, Longwoods, Talbot, Co., Md.

FREE! PEDIGREE NEST BOX.

We will give 100 plans of our pedigree Nest Box absolutely free. For full particulars enclose two one-cent stamps to POULTRY DIRECTORY CO., Box 763, Gosden, Ind.

BUFF LEGHORNS. A fine cockerel and two choice pullets for \$5.00. **S. C. Black Minorca** cockerels, \$2.00 each. **White Wyandottes.**—A few very fine early-hatched cockerels, two cock birds and 20 good yearling hens for sale at reasonable prices. Circular and photograph of some of my White Wyandottes, free. GEO. A. HURLBERT, Cuyler, N. Y.

EGGS for Hatching

White Wyandottes and R. I. Reds.

Strong, vigorous, prolific laying stock. Eggs \$1.00 per 15. For incubator \$4.00 per 100.

C. A. SANBORN, Malden, Mass.

Poultry Printing

Now is the time to look up your Stationery and Advertising for the winter and spring business. The successful man is the advertiser. We do up-to-date printing at small cost.

UNION PRINTING CO., Anthony, R. I.

NIAGARA

White Wyandottes,

Mammoth Pekin Ducks,

Are bred for utility. \$1.50 each. Belgian Hares, \$1.00 each. Green Cut Clover, \$1.50 per 100 lbs., \$7.00 per 500 lbs. Prices to trade.

Poultry Supplies. W. R. CURTISS & CO., Ransomville, N. Y. Circulars. Endorsed by Editor Boyer.

BUFF Plymouth Rocks.

Another year's trial proves them to be America's most popular fowl. We have bred them for years, and have the very best stock, winning at Indianapolis, Cincinnati and Columbus. Our cockerels are extra heavy. Price \$2.00 to \$5.00 each. Incubator eggs \$5 per hundred. O. S. EVANS, Roxbury, Ohio.

If People only Knew

what strong, vigorous Cockerels and Pullets we have for sale and ready to enter the breeding pen, they surely would buy some. Considering the quality and vigor of the stock, we claim to have as good and cheap as any one. If you are interested in Turkeys, Ducks, Geese, Guinea or Chickens, send for my catalogue, it fully describes the 23 varieties I breed. It is now time to inquire about incubator eggs. We can furnish them by the 100 or 1000. Prices quoted on application. D. A. MOUNT.

Pine Tree Farm, Jamesburg, N. J.

LINDEN POULTRY YARDS

now offer a fine lot of

Buff Rock and Cochin

youngsters at very reasonable prices. A few off colored Rock and Cochin cockerels and Rock pullets at \$1.00 each; all vigorous and healthy. Nothing better to grade up a flock than one of these cock'l's. Five pullets and cockerel for \$5.00. Have plenty of better ones, and will suit you in price and quality.

Send for free circular.

C. B. CROWELL, Brattleboro, Vt.

Orange Judd Company, New York, forwarded a very attractive calendar. This is one of the most enterprising firms in the country.

Pine Tree Farm, Jamesburg, N. J., received a solid silver loving cup at the late Philadelphia show for the best pair of Pekin ducks hatched in 1899.

The Page Woven Wire Fence Co., Adrian, Mich., are making a specialty of a very good poultry fencing. If you are interested write them for particulars.

F. S. Burch & Co., 178 Michigan street, Chicago, Ills., have issued a very complete catalogue of poultry supplies which they will send postpaid to all who apply.

Messrs. Bennett are not to be outdone in the calendar line. We have received a very pretty desk calendar from them. The Messrs. Bennett are manufacturers of the \$5 Champion Brooder.

Niagara Poultry Food is a new article prepared from green curd, fine cut clover and all other feeds in the right proportion, ready for use. Manufactured by W. R. Curtiss & Co., Ransomville, N. Y.

The Poultry Industry, Gouverneur, N. Y., is a new aspirant, edited by John E. Bennett, of Pioneer Clover Meal fame. It is a neat and interesting poultry journal, and well worth the subscription price asked—only 10 cents a year.

Niagara Farm, Ransomville, N. Y., is a hive of industry. They breed business White Wyandottes, Pekin ducks and Belgian hares, and can sell you the best stock for the least money than any one we know of. Their specialty is market poultry.

Geo. L. Harding, Binghamton, N. Y., knows how to advertise. He has just issued one of the most attractive catalogues of his ready ration, meat meal, clover compound and carbo-nicolo we had yet seen. Our readers should send for a copy.

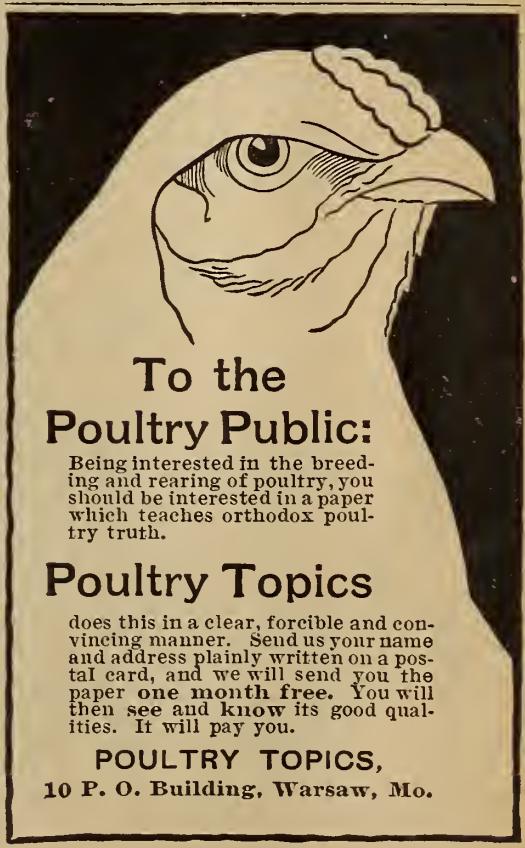
"Wait a Minute" is the title of a complete catalogue of poultry supplies and fixtures, just issued by the Drexel Supply Company, Drexel, Cook Co., Ills. The company seem to handle every contrivance needed in poultrydom, including the best books and journals on the subject.

Attention is called to the advertisement of Robert Atkins' utility White Wyandottes. Mr. Atkins is as yet new to our readers, but they will find him a regular veteran in his dealings. As he will dispose of but a few sittings—wishing to retain the greater number for his own use—orders should be placed early.

D. Lincoln Orr, Orr's Mills, N. Y., has just issued a new circular describing his White Indian Games, White Wyandottes and Light

SCORED BARRED ROCKS (Hawkins str.) and R. C. B. Leghorns. Pens, trio, pairs and single birds very cheap. F. M. Chesbro, Mongo, Ind.

BARRED P. Rock Incubator Eggs \$5.00 per 100; \$1.00 per 15. Pure bred, vigorous stock, the result of years of careful breeding. R. C. B. Leghorn Eggs, \$1.00 for 15. Abram Tallman, Englewood, N. J.



Brahma bantams, together with poultry supplies. We are personally acquainted with Mr. [redacted], who has had business dealings with him, and will be perfectly reliable.

Adam, Joliet, Ills., have just issued a complete catalogue of their green bone cutter. Philip Quigley, the Philadelphia, Pa., commission merchant, has removed to 345 South Broad street.

The J. W. Sefton Mfg. Co., 241 South Jefferson street, Chicago, Ills., are manufacturing an egg shipping box made from jute board.

The Advance Brooder Co., Budd, Ills., are advertising a 200-chick size which covers 1,300 square inches of floor space in each brooder.

The Bennett & Millett Co., Gouverneur, N. Y., Pioneer Clover Meal men, forwarded a new calendar and desk blotters. These gentlemen know how to push business and are reaping a just reward.

November 25th, Ford Bros., Medway, N. Y., breeders of Buff Plymouth Rocks, shipped five birds to Hamilton, Bermuda, and the receiver wrote that they arrived in excellent condition, and he is very much pleased with the stock.

F. S. Burch & Co., 178 Michigan street, Chicago, Ills., forwarded us a sample of Felch's Tonic Powder for poultry, which they claim is a regulator, and purely vegetable in composition. They write that the name "Felch" has no connection with I. K. Felch, of Natick, Mass.

Johnson & Stokes, 217 Market street, Philadelphia, Pa., have just issued a new catalogue on poultry supplies, which is the most complete one this firm has yet gotten out. We have had dealing with Johnson & Stokes for a number of years and have always found them prompt and reliable.

We have just received a copy of the 1900 catalogue of the Columbia Incubator Co., Delaware City, Del. It is a handsomely gotten up affair, finely illustrated. There is a lot of valuable information embodied in this catalogue, of value to those who intend embarking in the business. A copy will be sent to any of our readers for 5 cents.

The heavy demand for Pioneer Clover Meal compelled the Bennett & Millett Co., Gouverneur, N. Y., to enlarge their factory to twice its former capacity. In consequence of this increased capacity they are now in a position to make a better grade of clover meal than ever before, and at the same time at a reduced cost of production.

B. F. Huntington, Platteville, Wis., manufacturer of the Peerless leg band, has invented, and is manufacturing a new idea in bands, for which a patent is applied. The band is light and neat, and most important of all, it will stay on. They are so made that when properly adjusted they cannot come off. There are no tags or connecting links to lose off. It is all one piece. They are made of aluminum. Circulars and prices can be had by writing as above.

The Dunlap Supply Co., Yardley, Pa., have issued a neat circular of the Cuckoo Trap Nest that fully explains all the merits of the nest, besides giving a photo lithograph of the nest ready for business, and in a knock-down state ready for shipment. The Dunlap Company have also gotten up egg record sheets, a sample of which they send with their circulars, which is about as complete a plan for keeping individual records that we had yet seen.

W. R. Curtiss & Co., Ransomville, N. Y., write that their cut clover trade has increased so that they had to put in new machinery, which enables them now to cut, sift and bag from 5 to 7 tons of hay a day. Their factory is 30 x 50 feet, two stories high. The upper story is used for storing bulk hay. They have shipped several carload lots of cut clover this season, and report an excellent outlook for a big business this winter.

F. Christman, Sellersville, Pa., has an advertisement of eggs in this issue that our readers should look after. Mr. Christman uses trap nests, and keeps a careful record of his layers. Each season he gets rid of the poorest, and mates up the best egg producers. In that way he is getting a strain of heavy layers that are worth having. We advise our readers to give him a trial, and can bespeak honest dealings.

As an evidence of the universal interest taken in artificial incubation, and the confidence which the whole world places in American-made incubators, we refer to an order recently received by the Des Moines Incubator Co., of Des Moines, Iowa, through their New York agents, for a shipment of fourteen machines to go to parties in Sydney, Australia.

One of the best known fanciers papers devoted to Dogs, Poultry, Pigeons, etc., is the American Stock-Keeper, a weekly publication hailing from Boston, Mass. It is now in its 21st volume, and its patronage comes from the best class of fanciers and breeders. Show reports are one of its features, and the issue of December 9, contains an elaborate report of the Pet Dog show held in New York City, together with a large number of half-tone illustrations. The subscription price is but \$1 per year, which enables every dog and poultry breeder to obtain a first-class weekly at a very low price.

W. W. Kulp, Pottstown, Pa., is one of those poultrymen that it is a pleasure to recommend. His stock is not only of the highest order, but his prices are the very lowest. In fact it is puzzling to know how he can give such "good goods for so little money." We have just had the pleasure of looking over a number of testimonials from customers, which speak highly of the treatment received. He writes that he penned three Rose Comb Brown Leghorn pullets alone December 1st, 1898, and to December 1st, 1899, they laid 726 eggs, or an average of 242 each. That certainly is heavy laying. Here are a few extracts of testimonials:

W. W. Carman, Margueretville, N. Y.: "I am a strong Kulp man when it comes to poultry. I advise every one that asks me where to buy to buy of Kulp. I threw away a good many dollars on high priced eggs and stock, and never got anything to suit me until P. H. Jacobs and M. K. Boyer advised me to buy of you, and yours has been satisfactory every time."

J. W. Parsons, Sparland, Ills.: "I have been in the poultry business for 9 years, but have never had such a hatch as I did from your eggs. Eleven out of 12 eggs hatched. The hen broke an egg and ate another. If you could only work a plan to have two chicks in each egg, your fortune would be sure."

A. H. Foeltzer, Hutchinson, Kans.: "I hatched 12 chicks out of the sitting of Brown Leghorn eggs sent me, and they are dandies."

James A. Milburn, Winchester, Va.: "I am in receipt of the eggs, and must certainly add my testimonial to your record for fair dealing."

Hanaford's Wachusett Strain WHITE WYANDOTTES.

Heavy winter layers. Pullets laid 23 to 25 eggs each in both November and December without fail. Eggs from three pens fine birds, \$1 per sitting. Orders booked now. Incubator eggs, \$5 per 100, after February 15th. A few Buff Wyandotte cockerels for sale. F. A. HANAFORD, Alder Brook Poultry Farm, South Lancaster, Mass.

Save Money and Get the Best.

The best offer for practical poultrymen ever made is the following:

Farm-Poultry, semi-monthly, the best and most advanced poultry journal of the age, one dollar a year. Poultry Keeper, printed in colors, edited by P. H. Jacobs, the encyclopedia of practical poultry breeding, published monthly, fifty cents a year. The Inter-State Poultryman, plain, practical, progressive. It gives spice and variety by maintaining entertaining and instructive pet stock and women's departments, fifty cents a year. A Few Hens, by Boyer, who knows how to boil down poultry knowledge and get the facts in a few words, monthly, twenty-five cts. a year. These four journals give you all you want to know about poultry and pet stock, and will teach you how to find money in your hen house and rabbitries. To place them within the reach of all, we will send all four one year to any address for the small sum of \$1.15. You save one dollar and ten cents and get the best. Address,

I. S. JOHNSON & CO., Boston, Mass.



No Matter What Kind of Foods You Use!

Sheridan's Condition Powder is needed with it to assure perfect assimilation of the food elements to produce eggs. Sold by Druggists, Grocers, Feed Dealers or by mail. One pack, 25 cts; five, \$1. Large can, \$1.20. Six cans, \$5, prepaid. I. S. JOHNSON & CO., 22 Custom House St., Boston, Mass.

Price Is Right. You Will do Right

To Order at Once the Following
FOUR Poultry Papers

For \$1.15. Regular price \$2.25.

FARM-POULTRY,	semi-monthly, one year, price,	\$1.00
POULTRY KEEPER,	monthly, one year, price,	.50
INTER-STATE POULTRYMAN,	monthly, one year, price,	.50
A FEW HENS,	monthly, one year, price,	.25
Total, - - - -		\$2.25

PRACTICAL PAPERS PAY POULTRYMEN.

There are None More Practical than the following:

The Poultry Keeper, Parkesburg, Pa., that leads the world, because the editor, P. H. Jacobs, is the best informed man of this age on poultry subjects. Its cover, printed in two colors, makes it an ornament to any home, and its contents are none the less attractive, as you can see by sending for a free sample copy. Published monthly, at only 50 cents per year.

The Inter-State Poultryman, of Tiffin, Ohio, fifty cents a year, needs no introduction to our readers, its editor being fully abreast of the times. Published monthly.

A Few Hens, Boston, Mass., has been increased 50 percent. in size. It is edited by the well-known M. K. Boyer. Full of good things, monthly. 25 cents a year. Devoted to every branch of market poultry culture. It is a "boiled down" journal, giving the cream of poultry matter.

Farm-Poultry. This paper is published twice a month, and ranks as one of the best of all poultry papers. It pays practical poultrymen, because it teaches facts, not theories. It is a profitable poultry raising guide for all. Each issue is better than the last. Price, semi-monthly, \$1.00 per year.

Until Jan., 1901.

If you order at once, you will get **all four** of the papers from now until January 1st, 1901, all for (one dollar and fifteen cents.) - - - - - **\$1.15**

TAKE NOTICE. If your time is not out for our paper, your subscription will be marked up one year.

The **four papers** one year, after Jan. 1, 1900, for \$1.15. Send all orders to us. The combination cannot be changed or filled as above, unless all ordered at one time. Samples free.

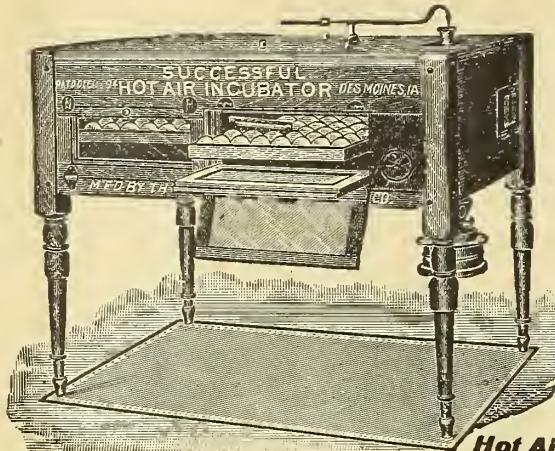
I. S. JOHNSON & CO.,

22 Custom House Street,

Boston, Mass.

INCUBATORS AND BROODERS

**Must be Made to Hatch and
Rear Chickens**

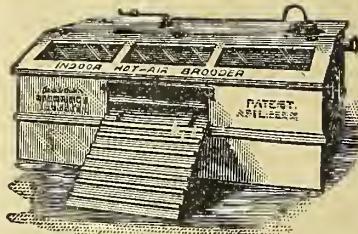


better and with less trouble than can be done with hens. The incubator must keep an even heat in all its parts, it must be **impermeable to the effects of outside heat or cold**, it must be safe, it must be simple and easily understood, it must not be cumbersome nor occupy too much space. The brooder must maintain an even temperature, it must be well ventilated, it must be roomy and easily accessible in all parts, it must be safe, and it must furnish all the favorable conditions necessary to the health of the young chick.

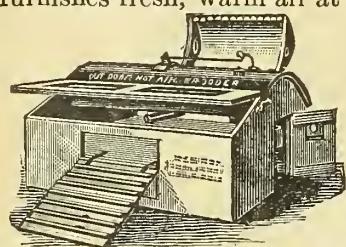
OUR INCUBATORS,

Hot Air and Hot Water, are all furnished with our patent regulator,

which we guarantee to control the heat within the variation of one degree under any circumstances; **our machines have double walls all around, packed with mineral wool**—the best known non-conductor of heat and cold; they have no intricate machinery of any kind, and **CAN BE RUN BY A CHILD**; they are neat and compact in design, occupying but a small space, and are highly ornamental in finish and general character; they are furnished with our patent safety lamp (which has received the indorsement of prominent insurance companies).



OUR BROODERS, both indoor and outdoor, hot air and hot water, are fitted with the same regulator used on our incubators and controls the heat with the same nicety; the system of ventilation furnishes fresh, warm air at all times; they can be opened so that every corner can be easily cleaned; they have our patent safety lamp; they can be closed up at night to keep the chicks safe from all harm; they have plenty of light for the chicks when cold or wet weather makes it necessary to keep them closed.



We make Incubators and Brooders Exclusively

and therefore give our whole attention to keeping the quality of all our machines up to the highest point of perfection. **We Guarantee them** to do all their work as it should be done, and we make our guarantee good.

Proof of the Value of the most convincing kind is the testimonial from one who has given our machines thorough trial. Below we give extracts from a few testimonials which have come to us unsolicited: Mr. L. H. Gould, of Toledo, Ohio, wrote under date of October 1, 1899, saying: "The incubator purchased from you last year was more than satisfactory; my results were from 85 to 96 per cent, or double or more than the results of my neighbor poultrymen with the machines of other makes." Mr. R. B. Chase, of Stronghurst, Ill., wrote under date of September 30, 1899, saying: "I bought a Crescent Incubator from you last spring, and am so well pleased that I am trying to induce a neighbor of means to buy several of your machines and allow me to run them on shares." We have hundreds of other letters from patrons who are enthusiastic on the merits of our machine.



The Clipper Poultry Marker

This marker is a new one which we are placing on the market. It is a good one; there is none better.

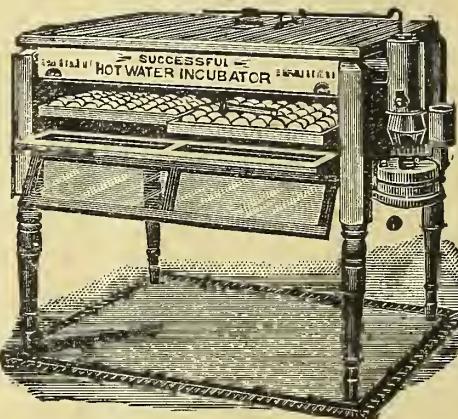
Price 25c.

**Special Prices
to the
Trade.**

Our New CATALOGUE

*Printed in
Five Languages,*

Is handsomely illustrated and gives full descriptions of all our Incubators and Brooders, price list, information on poultry, feeding, building poultry houses and a great deal of matter of value to farmers and breeders. Sent to any address on receipt of **6 cents** to pay postage.



Des Moines Incubator Co., Box 423, Des Moines, Iowa.